

Week 9 Family Letter

God's People Forget Who God Is: The Twelve Spies' Report

(Numbers 13:1–14:38)

God promised to give His people a new home in a new land. Moses told twelve men to go into the land and check things out. It was exciting! There were many wonderful things about the land. There was much food, like big, juicy grapes and plump, purple figs. There were grass, trees, and water, not like the sandy, rocky desert they just walked through to get there. It was scary! There were many dangerous things about the land. There were strong, giant people. There were huge walls around the cities to protect them.

What would God's people do? Ten of the men who looked at the land said to run away. They were scared. But two of the men who looked at the land said it was time to go in. They were excited. Joshua told the people to trust God. God is stronger than any bad enemies. But the people didn't listen to him, so they had to keep walking around in the sandy, rocky desert. They had to wait a long, long time until they had another chance to go to their new home.

God's people still have problems today. The biggest problem is sin—the bad things people do. But God is with us. God protects us. God saves us through Jesus. Jesus forgives our sin.

Bible Words

God is with you wherever
you go.

Joshua 1:9

Dear Family,

God gives us so many blessings—such as food, a home, and a family. Sometimes, however, these wonderful, special things get overshadowed and forgotten by things that overwhelm us—even making a living to put food on the table, cleaning and taking care of a house, and taking care of and getting along with members of the family.

This story reminds us to put our trust in God. He is in control and has power over anything that would threaten us, tempt us, or harm us. And He loves us enough to send His only Son, Jesus, to be our Savior, so that we might have a feast, a home, and a family forever in heaven. If God does that for us, He'll certainly help us through the things that scare us.

Give your child a purple crayon to color the grapes. Focus on the blessings of the new land, not the problem of the strong enemies in fortified cities. This week, focus on those blessings you see in your life, and leave the big problems to God. He is with us in our scary situations. Read the story on page 124 of *The Story Bible* together.

