WE WILL OVERCOME - PART 2

Summary (Numbers 13:1-3, 17-21,25, 27-33)

(***Begin by reading this summary. I encourage you to open your bible to Numbers 13 and place the summary inside your bible. We want our kiddos to know that this truly is the word of God, not just a story.***)

***(v. 1-3) The Lord told Moses, "Send some men to explore and spy out the land of Canaan. I will give this land to you, the Israelites, which were God's people. Send one leader from each of the 12 tribes." So Moses obeyed the Lord's command and sent out the 12 leaders while the rest of the people camped out in the desert. Moses told the people to look and see what the land was like, what the people were like, and for them to have courage. The men went to spy out the land.

***(v. 17-21, 25) When Moses sent the 12 leaders out to explore the land of Canaan he said, "Go through the Negev (which is a desert), and then into the hill country. See what the land looks like. Learn about the people who live there. Are they strong or are they weak? Are they few or are they many? Learn about the land that they live in. Is it good land or bad land? What kind of towns do they live in? Do the towns have walls protecting them? Are the towns strongly guarded? And learn other things about the land. Is the soil good for growing things, or is it poor soil? Are there trees on the land? Try to bring back some of the fruit from that land." (The first grapes should be ripe at this time.) So they went to explore the country.... The men explored that country for 40 days, and then they went back to the camp.

***(v. 27-33) When they came back to their camp, they told Moses, "We went to the land where you sent us. It is a land filled with many good things! Here is some of the fruit that grows there!" They brought back some fresh grapes from the vine. And they continued to say, "But the people living there are very powerful and strong. The cities are very large and there are guards protecting the city. We even saw some Anakites, Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites." Caleb, one of the leaders, told the people near Moses to be quiet. Then he said, "We should go up and take that land for ourselves. We can easily take that land." But the other leaders that had gone to spy the land with him said, "We cannot fight those people! They are much stronger than we are." So those men gave a report that made all the rest of the people sad. They said, "The land we saw was full of really strong people. They are strong enough to easily defeat anyone who goes there. We saw giants there too, the Nephilim. We felt like tiny little grasshoppers. Yes, we were like grasshoppers to them!"

3 Main Points (these points can be taught/discussed over different days.)

1) WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT GOD SAYS.

***(v. 1-3) The Lord said to Moses, "Send some men to explore the land of Canaan. I will give this land to the Israelites. Send one leader from each of the twelve tribes." So Moses obeyed the Lord's command and sent out the Israelite leaders while the people were camped in the desert of the Paran.

God told Moses that *HE WOULD* give the land of Canaan to the people, and for Moses to send the men out to explore the land. He did not tell the people to go see the land so they could then decide if they thought they could beat the giants and take the land. But, after seeing the giants, the people quickly forgot that God already told them that HE WOULD give them the land. It had nothing to do with whether or not they thought they were strong enough to do it. They had forgotten all about what God said. He said that HE would give them the land. He would be with them. God's plan all along was to be with His people and help them overcome the giants in the land of Canaan. And, that's God's plan for us, too.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Why do you think the leaders forgot what God said when they saw the giants?
- 2) Have you ever tried to do something hard or scary and forgotten what God told you or what His word says? (Ex. Maybe you have worried about going to a new school, new class, new team, etc. and forgot that God's word says that we should NOT worry?)
- 3) Why is it important to remember God' words in the Bible?
- 4) What can we do to help us remember what God's word says? (read it, write it, speak it, memorize it, sing it, etc.)

We need to KNOW what God says. When we know what God says about us, about our life, we can have courage. We need to know what God's word says about fear, worry, unforgiveness, sickness, death, etc. We need to focus on what God says and not on the problem or the difficulty we are facing. We need to know that what God says is the truth. God can only tell the truth, He cannot lie. When we KNOW God's word, when we KNOW the truth, it sets us free from fear, worry, unforgiveness, and even sickness and death!

Scripture memory verse: You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." John 8:32 ERV

Prayer: Jesus, we thank you for your words in the Bible. We thank you that your words are true, and that you can only tell us the truth and cannot lie. We thank you that in your word, there are answers to everything we face, every hard and scary thing. Your words tell us what we should do. Holy Spirit we ask you to help us remember the words from God in the Bible when we read it, when we hear it, when we speak it and when we pray it. We are so thankful to know the truth, and that the truth in your words sets us free. We want to be free, Jesus. In your name we pray, amen.

2) SEEING VS. HEARING

Discussion Questions

- 1) Have you ever seen something that made you feel scared? How about sad? Or happy? Or excited?
- 2) Have you ever heard something that made you feel scared? Sad? Happy? Excited?
- 3) Give an example of a real seeing versus hearing scenario: ("Would you be more excited when I tell you what Disney world looks like or when you see it with your eyes?" "Would you be more afraid if I told you what a snake looked like or if you saw it with your eyes?")
- 4) What is faith? (trusting in someone or something)
- 5) Do you have faith in anything or anyone?

God told/described to the people what was going to happen. He told them He was going to give them the land *BEFORE* He told them to go see what they would be facing. They HEARD first, and then saw. He told them what was going to happen *first*, so they would have courage and believe what God SAID *before* they SAW the big strong giants they would have to battle against. But, the people chose to believe what they saw with their own eyes, instead of what God said, which was that He was going to give them the land.

Sometimes we can hear something, but it is very different when we see something. It can feel more real. Sometimes we let what we see with our own eyes become more real than what God says, or what the Bible says. For example, we know that a basketball is orange, right? Is it still orange if you can't see it in front of you right now? (yes) Right! We must have faith and choose to believe, trust and focus on what God says instead of what we see with our OWN eyes.

Scripture memory verse: Faith is what makes real the things we hope for. It is proof of what we cannot see. Hebrews 11:1 ERV

Prayer: Jesus, we thank you that you speak to us through your word in the Bible and through the Holy Spirit. We ask you, Holy Spirit, to help us choose faith over fear and worry. We ask you to help us remember your promise to be with us always, to save us and keep us safe. Holy Spirit, we ask you to increase our faith and make it BIG! Help us to see ourselves the way that you see us, not as tiny grasshoppers, but as mighty warriors. Help us to have courage to trust in you and in your word in the Bible, in every situation and part of our life. We love you, Jesus, and it's in your name that we pray, amen.

3) HOW TO POSSESS THE LAND.

God told the Israelite people to *TAKE* the land of Canaan. They were to take it for themselves. But, there were other people living there, the giants. If they were going to take the land for themselves, they were going to have to 1) make all of the other people living there get out of the land, and then 2) move their families and belongings into the new land once the other people were gone. Think about moving into a new house or getting a new bedroom. The other people will have to move all of their things out of the house/room, before we can move all of our things in and live there.

Sometimes in our heart, there are things that move in there and end up living there... fear, anger, sadness, unforgiveness, worry, etc. Those are things that we don't want living inside of our heart. These things do not come from Jesus, and we don't want anything living inside of us that is not from Jesus. We want what Jesus gives and His gifts to live inside of our heart: love, joy, peace, goodness, etc. Before those things can live in our heart, we have to remove all of the other things, first (the fear, anger, sadness, unforgiveness, worry, etc). We have to tell those things to go! We can tell those things to get out of our heart and mind. We can even tell sickness to leave our body, in the name of Jesus! We may have to give up watching a movie or reading a book that scares us, even though it may seem exciting at the time. We may need to forgive someone for hurting us, even if we don't feel like it. These things can be really hard to do sometimes. But, we can do it with Jesus's help.

Once we tell those things to go, we ask the Holy Spirit to *FILL* us with his love, peace, joy, mercy, etc. We can help fill ourselves by reading our Bible, spend time talking to Jesus in prayer, listening to worship music, etc. This may mean that we need to give up a few extra minutes of game time or free time, but it is well worth it to be full of Jesus and not have those yucky things living inside of us.

Discussion Questions/Application

- 1) Do you have any thoughts in your mind or heart that you know are not from Jesus? (Ex. fear, worry, anger, unforgiveness, etc) **Take time to address those things and tell those things to "get out" of my heart and give/receive forgiveness.
- 2) Is there anything you can stop doing to cause those things to come into your life? (Ex. stop watching scary movies, etc.)
- 3) What do you want the Holy Spirit to fill you with? (Ex. peace for worry, perfect love for fear, joy for anger or sadness, etc)
- 4) How can you help fill yourself up more with Jesus each day?

Scripture memory verse: Whatever is good and perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens. He never changes or casts a shifting shadow. James 1:17 NLT

Prayer: Jesus, thank you for showing us the things inside of our hearts and minds that do not belong there, and that are not from you. Thank you for showing us the things we need to not do in order to have more time filling ourselves with you. Holy Spirit, thank you for filling us up, for filling our hearts and our minds with your love, joy, peace. Help us to be strong to tell the enemy no when he tries to bring bad things into our minds and hearts. Help us to be brave and tell those things to get out of our minds and hearts before they ever try to live there. Help us to be so full of you, Holy Spirit, that there is no room for those things to enter our minds and hearts. We love you Jesus! We pray all of these things in your mighty name, amen!

***WORSHIP SONG

"Fearless" by Jasmine Murray https://youtu.be/Yqtf71mlLwY

***APPLICATION ACTIVITIES

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

For scripture meditation we do 5 things with the scripture. We...

- 1) Read it
- 2) Write it
- 3) Speak it
- 4) Pray it
- 5) Sing it

Have some worship music and some crayons, colored pencils, watercolors, etc. ready to use also! Sometimes God will show us pictures in our mind as we are meditating, and having these items ready will allow for your children to draw what God shows them!

FAITH OBJECT LESSONS

- 1. Flip the switch. Go to a room with minimal light. Ask your children what they think will happen when you flip the switch. They will answer the room will go dark. Give a demonstration. Explain to them that they had faith that the lights would go out and come back on. It takes faith to trust that the light will work. If you didn't have faith you wouldn't flip the switch!
- **2. Float the beach ball**. Set up a fan to tilt upwards. You'll also need an inflated beach ball to demonstrate the moving of the air. Ask your child what will happen when the fan is turned on. They'll tell you that the air will

move. Explain that although they can't see it, the air is real. Tell them that their faith is like the air. Our human eyes can't see it but God can. Faith is real and it moves the invisible world.

3. Fall backwards. For this object lesson, demonstrate faith by asking a child to fall backwards into your arms. Tell them that trusting God is sometimes like closing your eyes and falling into His arms. It's a fun, interactive demonstration.

Resource site: https://ministry-to-children.com/faith-object-lessons/