

AGAINST THE CROWD

**Guts
and
Glory**
LESSON 4

LESSON TEXT

Numbers 13 and 14

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- The students will identify Joshua and Caleb and learn about their mission.
- The students will identify two qualities that made them different from the other spies.
- The students will test their courage in sharing about God this week.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each student:

- 1 safety pin
- pen or pencil

For the teacher:

- colored pencils
- magic markers
- extra Bibles
- 1 copy of "Good News from the Kingdom"
- globe or map of the world

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student
- Page B, 1 copy for each student
- Page C, 1 copy for each student
- Page D, 1 copy for every 4 students
- Page E, 1 copy for each student

LESSON PLAN

Getting Ready

Faithful instruction
Teacher Focus
Teacher Tips
Preclass Activity: Decode the Messages
Starting Up
Welcome and Singing
Opening Prayer
Victories
Good News from the Kingdom

Getting into God's Word

Story: Wilma Rudolph
Scripture Study
Activity: "Ask Me" Badges

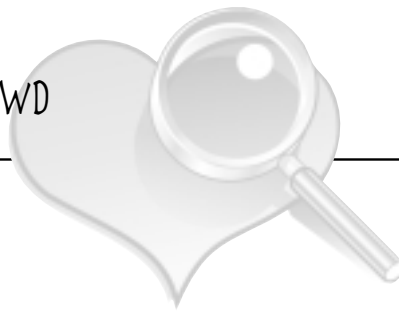
Getting It to Others

Scripture Memory: Numbers 14:24
Weekly Challenge and Snack Time
Conclusion

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.

Numbers 14:24



FAITHFUL INSTRUCTION

TEACHER FOCUS

Pray before preparing this lesson. Read and meditate on Numbers 13-14 and Joshua 14:6-15 until you understand the basic story and the lessons it holds. Think of specific ways in your own life in which you have had to overcome obstacles and to persevere.

TEACHER TIPS

The weekly challenge for this lesson may be quite daunting for your students. As an encouragement to your students, you and your assistants should do the weekly challenge along with your class. Your courage and conviction will be inspiring to them.

PRECLASS ACTIVITY

DECODE THE MESSAGES

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

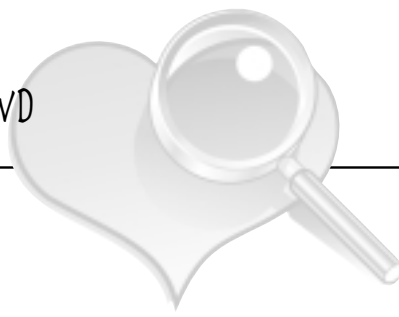
- pen or pencil

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each student
- Page B, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. As the students arrive, give each a copy of Reproducible Pages A and B, and a pen or pencil.
2. Instruct the students to decode the two messages to find out the extent of God's love for us. (Each sheet has the same message.)
3. After they have decoded the messages, have the students look up Numbers 14:18.
4. The message is "The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion."



STARTING UP

WELCOME AND SINGING

Call the students together in a circle. Welcome everyone by name, being sure to recognize anyone who is visiting. Let them know how glad you are to see them, and how much you looked forward to being with them. Sing a few great songs.

OPENING PRAYER

Who would like to say a prayer to start today's time together? Let a few students lead the prayer. Encourage the students to mention missing students, special church activities, illnesses, and to be especially thankful for the chance to be together.

VICTORIES

Take the time to have the students share about the challenges they were given at the end of last week's class. *Did everyone complete their challenge? How did it go? What fears did you face as you met the challenge to put the lesson into practice? How did everyone do with having consistent quiet times?*

Praise and encourage all the students' efforts, especially noting any area of significant growth. Offer help and suggestions so they can have even more victories in the coming week.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE KINGDOM

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- 1 copy of "Good News from the Kingdom"
- globe or map of the world

INSTRUCTIONS

Now let's take a few minutes to share "Good News from the Kingdom." Be excited as you read about what is happening around the world. Have a globe or map ready, pointing out the location as you share.

Have all of the students take out their Preclass Activity sheets (Reproducible Pages A and B). *What was the secret message that you had to decode?* Tell them this passage comes from Numbers 14:18.





STORY

WILMA RUDOLPH

This story is amazing! A weak, sickly little girl became the fastest woman in the world. How? Wilma Rudolph never gave in to her weakness and refused to listen to those who would try to convince her that it couldn't be done. Her story is one of determination, perseverance and courage. She never gave up. Her weakness and bad health were not an excuse, just an opportunity to work harder. Think about ways in your own life that you have overcome obstacles in order to achieve what God wants for you.

MATERIALS USED

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Distribute copies of Reproducible Page C (the story) to the students.
2. Ask the students to listen as you read the story about Wilma Rudolph.
3. Ask them to think about the courage it took for Wilma to overcome her hardships.
 - *What are some of the excuses that Wilma could have made?*
 - *What sacrifices did Wilma's family make in order to help her overcome and persevere?*
 - *How do you think Wilma felt when people would tell her she could not be involved in athletics?*



SCRIPTURE STUDY

Explain that courage is a very important part of our lives and that today's message and all of UNIT 2 is on the topic of courage. Let the class know that today we will be discussing the life of Caleb, a man who faced opposition, but was willing to stand strong for the convictions that he had.

Have the students take out their Bibles and turn to Numbers 13. Select several volunteers to read passages for you. As you read through the passages, help the students to identify whether the people in that particular section of the story have a positive focus or a negative focus.

As you continue, choose students who will read each section out loud.

1. Read Numbers 13:1-3, 13:16-25. (POSITIVE FOCUS)
 - *If you were one of the explorers, what would your report be at this point?*
2. Read Numbers 13:26-33. (NEGATIVE FOCUS)
 - *What was the actual report that was given?*
 - *What were some of the spies afraid of?*
 - *Why did they give a negative report?*
3. Read Numbers 13:30. (POSITIVE FOCUS)
 - *What was Caleb's report to Moses?*
 - (vv. 31-33) *How would you have felt if you had been Caleb at this point, with all of your friends opposing you?*
 - *Are there any areas or ways that people would oppose a disciple today?*
 - *Why would people be negative about standing up for God?*
4. Read Numbers 14:1-4. (NEGATIVE FOCUS)

The whole Israelite camp becomes negative.

 - *How does the report of the ten spies affect the entire Israelite camp? Why?*
 - *Have you ever seen a time when a few people can cause the rest of the people to have a negative perspective?*
 - *How can this kind of "peer pressure" affect you today?*



5. Read Numbers 14:5-9. (POSITIVE FOCUS)
 - *Why didn't Joshua and Caleb give in to the same fear as the rest of the men?*
 - They trusted that God would give them the victory. They weren't afraid of the people of the land. They saw that the goal of taking the land was something worth fighting for.
 - *How does it make you feel to see heroes like Joshua and Caleb take a stand for the truth instead of being cowards?*
6. Read Numbers 14:10-12. (NEGATIVE FOCUS)
 - *How did the people respond to Joshua and Caleb's positive attitude?*
 - *Was God happy with the Israelites?*
To God, a negative focus is contempt toward him. What does it mean to have "contempt" toward God? (no respect for God, no trust in God, having a "failure mentality")
7. Read Numbers 14:13-19. (POSITIVE FOCUS)
 - *Why did Moses stand up for the Israelites when God was ready to destroy them?*
 - Moses loved God's people even though they were sinners. Moses wanted God to be glorified among all the people of the earth. Moses believed that the people could change.
8. Read Numbers 14:20-24.
 God will punish those who are faithless (Response to a NEGATIVE FOCUS)
 God will reward those who are faithful. (Response to a POSITIVE FOCUS)
 - *What was different about Caleb? Why was God pleased with him?*
9. *How was Wilma Rudolph like Caleb?*
 - She didn't give up even when most of the people around her had a negative focus. She didn't get discouraged by what others were saying. She persevered through many hardships.

ACTIVITY

"ASK ME" BADGES

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- 1 safety pin

For the teacher:

- magic markers
- colored pencils

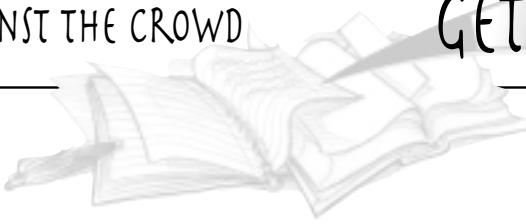
Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for every 4 students, plus 1 badge for each Sunday and Midweek teacher

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Have the students design and decorate their own badges (one per student).
2. Supply them with one safety pin per badge.
3. You should design a badge for yourself as well.
4. Give badges to the teachers of the next class so they can take the challenge also.





SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Numbers 14:24

But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.

MATERIALS USED

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give each student a copy of Reproducible Page E (Scripture Memory Verse).
2. Have the students say the memory verse together aloud several times.
3. Talk about what the verse means.
4. What kind of "different spirit" did Caleb have?
5. What does it mean to serve God "wholeheartedly"?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE AND SNACK TIME

If your students bring a snack, allow them to eat it while you explain to them the challenge for the week.

Explain that the challenge for this week is for each student (and teacher) to wear their badge to school (or work) or to some activity ONE DAY during the coming week. When someone asks about the badge, the students are to tell about one of several things:

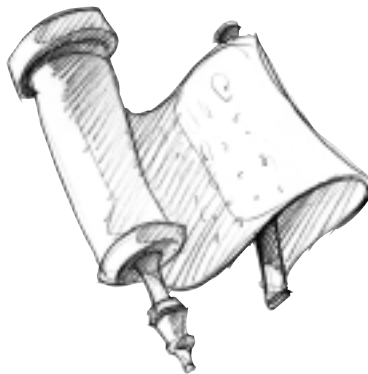
1. your class at church.
2. your church.
3. your relationship with God.

Everyone needs to have courage this week as they stand up for Jesus. Role play several scenarios to help the students focus on how to answer their friends' questions. Show the students how to have a positive focus. Don't give in to the pressures of a negative focus!

There will probably be many students who will be fearful about the challenge, and you should ask questions to discern whether or not all of your students feel comfortable in going after it. Talk through their fears, and spend some time praying about the challenge of the week. You might suggest that the students call one another during the week to pray also, and to encourage one another.

CONCLUSION

End the class with a prayer.



AGAINST THE CROWD

Guts and Glory
LESSON 4
(SUPPLEMENT)

LESSON TEXT

Numbers 13 and 14

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- The students will identify Joshua and Caleb and learn about their mission.
- The students will identify two qualities that made them different from the other spies.
- The students will test their courage in sharing about God this week.

MATERIALS NEEDED

For each student:

- pen or pencil
- paper

For the teacher:

- 1 piece of white poster board
- magic markers
- extra Bibles
- "Ask Me" badges from Core teacher

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, several extra copies
- Page F, 1 copy for each student

LESSON PLAN

Getting Ready

Faithful Instruction
Teacher Focus
Teacher Tips
Preclass Activity: Convictions Crossword
Starting Up
Welcome and Singing
Opening Prayer
Great News Sharing

Getting into God's Word

Scripture Study
Activity: The Cost of Following Jesus

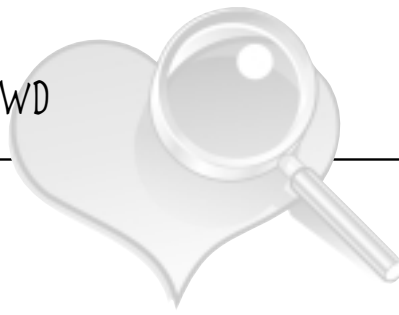
Getting It to Others

Scripture Memory: Numbers 14:24
Weekly Challenge and Snack Time
Conclusion

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.

Numbers 14:24



FAITHFUL INSTRUCTION

TEACHER FOCUS

Pray before preparing this lesson. Read and meditate on Numbers 13-14 and Joshua 14:6-15 until you feel like you understand the basic story and the lessons it holds. Think of specific ways in your own life in which you have had to overcome obstacles and persevere.

TEACHER TIPS

The weekly challenge for this lesson may be quite daunting for your students. As an encouragement to your students, you and your assistants should do the weekly challenge along with your class. You should obtain enough copies of the "Ask Me" badge for all your teachers from the Core Lesson teacher. Take the challenge during the same week as your students. Your courage and conviction will be inspiring to them.

PRECLASS ACTIVITY

CONVICTIONS CROSSWORD

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

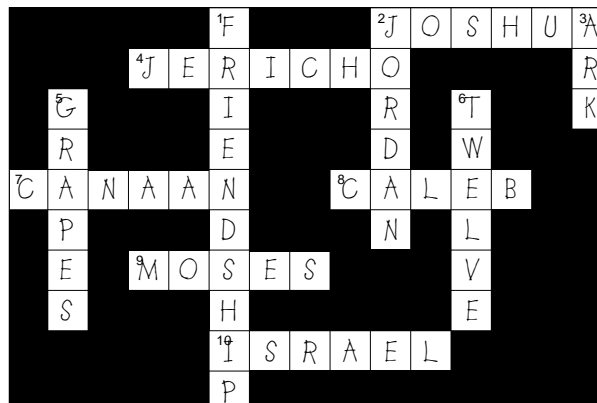
- pen or pencil

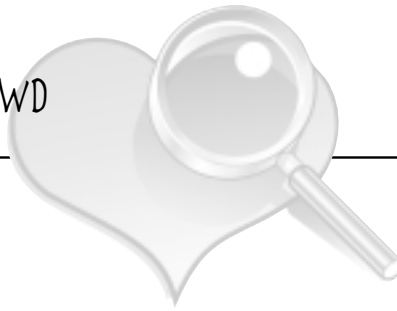
Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for each student

INSTRUCTIONS

1. As the students arrive, give each student a copy of Reproducible Page F (Caleb Crossword) and a pen or pencil.
2. Instruct the students to use their Bibles to look up the clues for each word and then fill in the answers on the sheet.





STARTING UP

WELCOME AND SINGING

Call the students together in a circle. Welcome everyone by name, being sure to recognize anyone who is visiting. Let them know how glad you are to see them, and how much you looked forward to being with them. Sing a few great songs.

OPENING PRAYER

Who would like to say a prayer to start today's time together? Let a few students lead the prayer. Encourage the students to mention missing students, special church activities, illnesses, and to be especially thankful for the chance to be together.

GREAT NEWS SHARING

Allow several minutes for the students to share great news about their lives. This could be about a family member who became a disciple, someone healed from an illness, someone studying the Bible, great grades, etc. Remind the students to be brief, so that as many as possible can share.





SCRIPTURE STUDY

Ask the students to talk about what they learned about Caleb during their last class. Get as many students as possible to participate and share the aspects of the lesson that were significant to them.

Did everyone finish the crossword puzzle? Go over the answers to each one (be sure that you have looked over the crossword puzzle in advance yourself).

Have the students open their Bibles to Joshua 14:6-15. Choose two students to read this portion of scripture. Divide the reading as follows:

Joshua 14:6-9

Joshua 14:10-16

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- paper
- pen or pencil

What is it about Caleb that we need to understand and follow?

List 5 characteristics about Caleb that are worth following. (Have the students write these things down, or you might want to have one student be the secretary to write down what others suggest.)

1. He never gave up (vv. 10-11).
2. He had convictions about what he thought was right (v. 7).
3. He didn't give in to peer pressure (v. 8).
4. He followed God wholeheartedly (vv. 8, 14).
5. He didn't run away from the battle (v. 12 - willing to battle the Anakites).

Discuss the awesome heart of Caleb, even though he was 85 years old.

ACTIVITY

THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

MATERIALS USED

For each student:

- paper
- pen or pencil

For the teacher:

- 1 piece of white poster board
- magic markers

PREPARATION

1. Prior to class, write at the top of a piece of poster board:

SPYING OUT THE LAND

THE COST OF FOLLOWING JESUS

2. Draw a vertical line down the middle of the poster board.
3. On the left side write:

REASONS WE SHOULD NOT FOLLOW JESUS

4. On the right side write:

REASONS WE SHOULD FOLLOW JESUS





INSTRUCTIONS

1. Divide the students into two groups, and assign one of the teachers to each group as a coach. Each group should decide on a "team leader" and a "recorder" to write down the decisions that the group decides upon.
2. Have one group decide on as many reasons as possible that they SHOULD FOLLOW JESUS and write those reasons down on a piece of paper. Have the second group decide on several reasons why people might think they SHOULD NOT FOLLOW JESUS and write those reasons down on a piece of paper
3. The teachers need to guide the students to come up with realistic answers. Samples:
 - A. REASONS WE SHOULD NOT FOLLOW JESUS
 - Our friends will make fun of us.
 - We will miss out on a lot of fun at school.
 - We can't sleep in on Sundays.
 - B. REASONS WE SHOULD FOLLOW JESUS
 - We will keep out of the trouble that many of our friends are in.
 - We will have good and loyal friends.
 - We will be stronger.
 - We will go to heaven when we die.
 - We will be pleasing to Jesus.
4. Allow 10-15 minutes for the students to come up with a good list of answers.
5. Bring both groups back together.
6. First, the negative group will decide on one of the reasons to not follow Jesus, and one of the students will give that reason out loud. The teacher should write it down on the poster board.
7. Next the positive group will consult and decide on the best response for the negative reason the first group gave. Then they will then give a positive reason to follow Jesus. The teacher helping the positive group will need to make sure that the responses really counter the negative reasons.
8. You are making the point that it is much more powerful to be positive than to be negative. Write this down on the poster board. This process should be continued for four or five rounds.
9. Discuss why God wants us to have a positive focus instead of a negative focus.



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Numbers 14:24

But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.

MATERIALS USED

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, several extra copies

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Ask the students if anyone can recite the memory scripture for this week.
2. After several have quoted the verse, recite it together as a class two or three times.
3. Hand out copies of Reproducible Page E to those students who don't already have it and to visiting students.

WEEKLY CHALLENGE AND SNACK TIME

MATERIALS USED

For the teacher:

- "Ask Me" badges from Core teacher

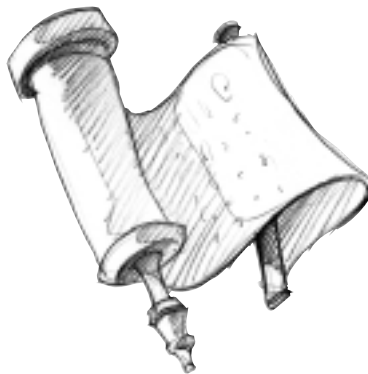
If your students bring a snack, allow them to eat it while you remind them of the challenge for the week.

(The students were to wear their "Ask Me" badges to school or to some activity one day and share about God, the church or their class.)

Discuss any fears or obstacles the students have encountered in carrying out the challenge this week. Let the students know how you and the other teachers have been doing with the challenge. Be sure that you can bring inspiring, encouraging news. Give ideas on how to overcome the fears, being sure to remind them that prayer is their best weapon against fear! Encourage the students by taking the challenge along with them. Also remind them to be keeping up with their daily quiet times.

CONCLUSION

End the class with a prayer.



GOD'S SPIES DECODE THE MESSAGE

Decode this message about God!

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 ☆ ☆ ☸ ☆ ✚ ☆ ✚ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
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THE SECRET CODE:

✚ = E	☆ = L
☆ = O	☸ = D
☆ = N	☆ = R
☆ = I	☆ = A
☆ = G	* = S



The following words are scrambled.

DECODE THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE

(If you have trouble and need a hint, look up Numbers 14:18.)

E H T D R O L S I W O L S
- - - - - - - - - - - - -

O T R E G N A,
- - - - - - -'

G N I D N U O B A N I E V O L
- - - - - - - - - - - - - -

D N A G N I V I G R O F N I S
- - - - - - - - - - - - - -

D N A N O I L L E B E R.
- - - - - - - - - - -

WILMA RUDOLPH

Did you know that as a child Wilma Rudolph—"fastest woman in the world"—had scarlet fever, double pneumonia and polio?

Yes, as a child, Wilma Rudolph was weak and sickly. The worst of her sicknesses was polio, a disease that attacks the nerves. This disease partially paralyzed and twisted her left leg. Her doctors told her and her family that if she wanted to walk she would always have to wear an ugly metal and leather brace.

But Wilma's mother wanted her daughter to walk normally. Every week for years, she took Wilma fifty miles on a bus to a hospital where people helped her use her leg. Every night, family members stretched and rubbed her leg.

As she watched the other children playing, she wished that she could join them.

Slowly, her leg grew stronger. By age twelve, she stopped wearing the brace and threw it away. Her leg was normal. She was so happy to be able to walk, run and play like the other children.

In high school she became a great basketball player. She was the fastest runner on her team. A college track coach saw her play one day and knew she was a star. He asked her to come and train with his team in the summer.

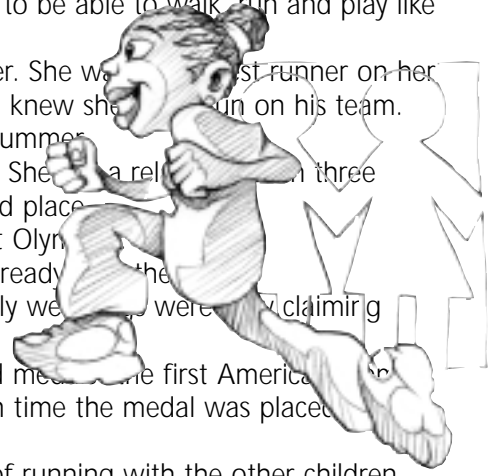
At age 16, Wilma qualified for the 1956 Olympics. She was a relay runner with three other teammates. They won the bronze medal for third place. She promised to return and do even better in the next Olympics.

When the 1960 Olympic trials were held, Wilma already had the fastest times in the American and world records in her events. Her formerly weak legs were now claiming great victories.

During that Olympics, Wilma easily won three gold medals. She was the first American woman to do this in track and field. She smiled and cried each time the medal was placed around her neck.

Wilma Rudolph, the little girl who once dreamed of running with the other children, was now "the fastest woman in the world."

(Excerpted from *The Heart of a Champion for Kids*, DPI, 1996.)



**ASK
ME!**

**ASK
ME!**

**ASK
ME!**

**ASK
ME!**

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.



NUMBERS 14:24

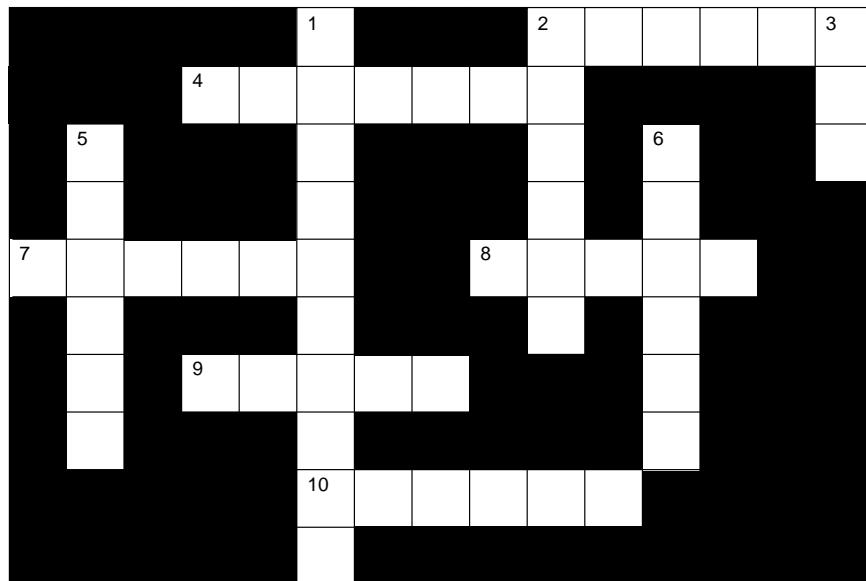
WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Wear your "Ask Me" badge to school or to some other activity. When someone asks you why you have it on, tell them either about your church, your class at church or about your relationship with God.

CALEB - CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DIRECTIONS:

For each clue, look up the verse that is given in the clue and read the passage. Find the word and fill in the spaces in the Crossword Puzzle.



ACROSS

2. The name of Caleb's friend who was one of the spies. (see Numbers 13:16)
4. The first city captured by the Israelites after they entered the Promised Land. (see Joshua. 6:1)
7. The Promised Land was called the land of _____ by the people who lived there. (see Numbers 13:2)
8. One of the two spies who had the courage to say that God was stronger than the Canaanites. (see Numbers 13:30)
9. The leader of God's people when the spies went to look at the Promised Land. (see Numbers 13:3)
10. The name of the nation that was commanded to obey God so that He could give them the Promised Land. (see Deuteronomy. 6:3)

DOWN

1. Joshua and Caleb stayed close for forty-five years after exploring Canaan. They had a great _____. (see Joshua 14:6-13 - Hint: This word is not in the text.)
2. The river that the Israelites had to cross to enter the Promised Land. (see Joshua 3:14)
3. The priests entered the river first, carrying the _____. (see Joshua 3:6)
5. When the spies came back from the Promised Land, they were carrying a huge cluster of _____. (see Numbers 13:23)
6. The number of spies who went in to spy out the land. (see Numbers 13:3-15)

