

EXPLORING CANAAN

Numbers 13:1-33

Numbers 13

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²“Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders.”

³So at the LORD’S command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran. All of them were leaders of the Israelites. ⁴These are their names:

from the tribe of Reuben, Shammua son of Zaccur;

⁵from the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat son of Hori;

⁶from the tribe of Judah, Caleb son of Jephunneh;

⁷from the tribe of Issachar, Igal son of Joseph;

⁸from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea son of Nun;

⁹from the tribe of Benjamin, Palti son of Raphu;

¹⁰from the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel son of Sodi;

¹¹from the tribe of Manasseh (a tribe of Joseph), Gaddi son of Susi;

¹²from the tribe of Dan, Ammiel son of Gemalli;

¹³from the tribe of Asher, Sethur son of Michael;

¹⁴from the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi son of Vophsi;

¹⁵from the tribe of Gad, Geuel son of Maki.

¹⁶These are the names of the men Moses sent to explore the land. (Moses gave Hoshea son of Nun the name Joshua.)

¹⁷When Moses sent them to explore Canaan, he said, “Go up through the Negev and on into the hill country. ¹⁸See what the land is like and whether the people who live there are strong or weak, few or many. ¹⁹What kind of land do they live in? Is it good or bad? What kind of towns do they live in? Are they unwalled or fortified?

²⁰How is the soil? Is it fertile or poor? Are there trees on it or not? Do your best to bring back some of the fruit of the land.” (It was the season for the first ripe grapes.)

²¹So they went up and explored the land from the Desert of Zin as far as Rehob, toward Lebo

Hamath. ²²They went up through the Negev and came to Hebron, where Ahiman, Sheshai and Talmi, the descendants of Anak, lived. (Hebron had been built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)

²³When they reached the Valley of Eshcol, they cut off a branch bearing a single cluster of grapes. Two of them carried it on a pole between them, along with some pomegranates and figs. ²⁴That place was called the Valley of Eshcol because of the cluster of grapes the Israelites cut off there.

²⁵At the end of forty days they returned from exploring the land.

²⁶They came back to Moses and Aaron and the whole Israelite community at Kadesh in the Desert of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole assembly and showed them the fruit of the land. ²⁷They gave Moses this account: “We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit.

²⁸But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. ²⁹The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan.”

³⁰Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.”

³¹But the men who had gone up with him said, “We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” ³²And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, “The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). ³³We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.”

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POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) How many men were sent to explore Canaan?
5		2.) What did Moses ask the men to look for? (Verses 18-20)
5		3.) What did the spies tell the Israelites about the people in Canaan? (Verse 31)
5		4.) Why do you think Moses said, "We should go up and take possession of the land?"

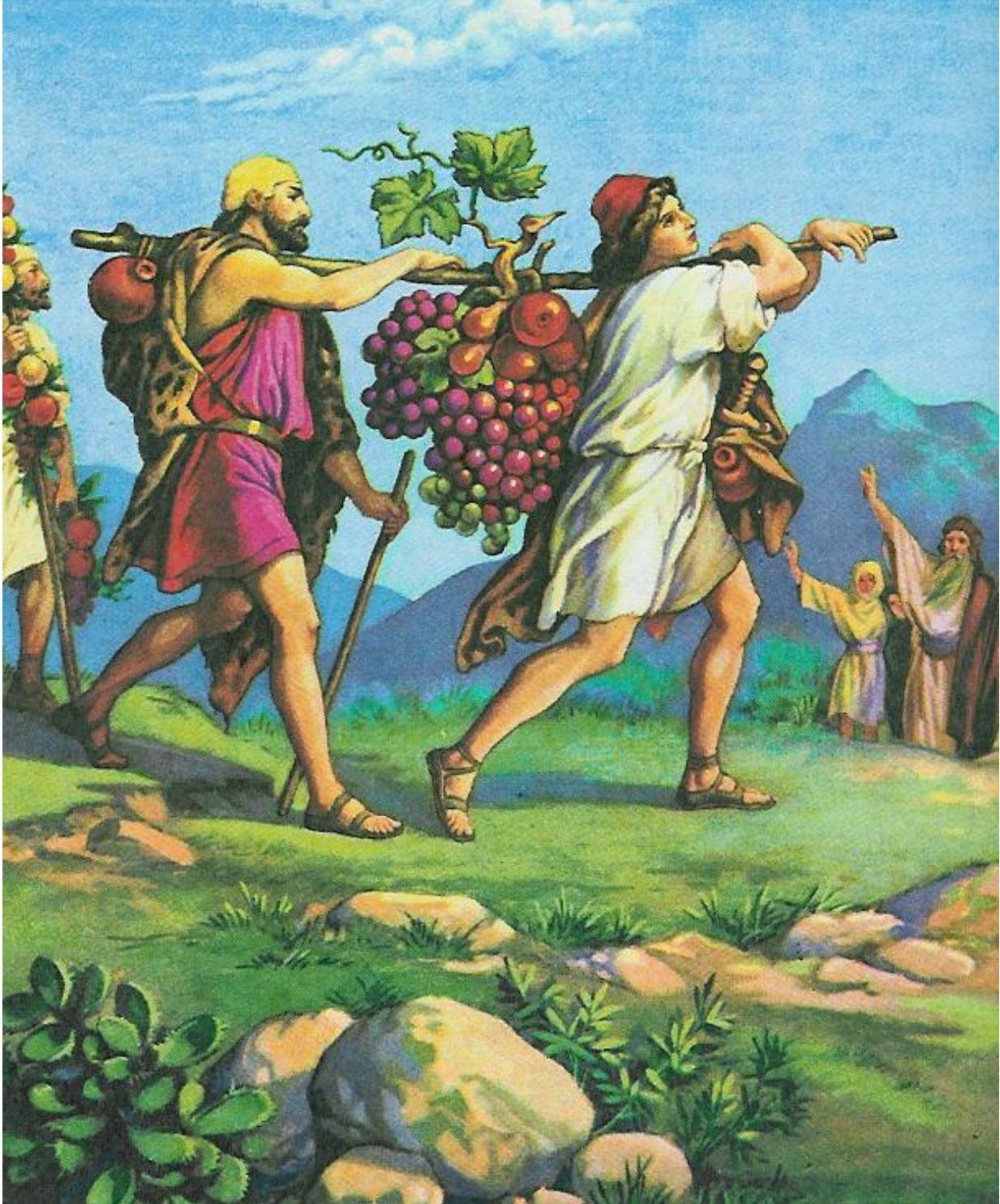
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		"Wait for the Lord, be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord." Psalm 27:14

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___

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Numbers 13:1-33



A cluster of grapes is brought back from Canaan

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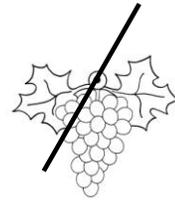
Numbers 13:1-33

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: GRAPE CLUSTERS

Students will make a grape cluster to remind them of how the Israelites brought back a cluster of grapes on a pole after exploring Canaan, the land God promised to the Israelites.

MATERIALS

1. 67 lb. Cardstock
2. Grape Cluster Pattern
3. Crayons, Markers, or Colored Pencils
4. Scissors
5. Glue
6. Plastic Drinking Straws
7. Hole Punch.



DIRECTIONS

1. Make copies of the “Grape Cluster Pattern” for each student.
2. Have students color the leaves and grapes.
3. Have students cut out the grapes and leaves as one piece.
4. Fold the grape pattern on the dotted line so that it can be glued back to back.
5. Punch a hole through the black dot.
6. Slip a straw through the hole.

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are working on their grape clusters, remind them that God sent one man from each of the 12 tribes of Israel to explore Canaan. Canaan was the land promised to the Israelites by God. Their fear and complaining almost resulted in their death (Exodus 14:12). Moses begged God to reconsider, and God did. Instead of destroying the Israelites that complained, God would keep them from entering Canaan. The only ones allowed into Canaan were Caleb and Joshua. All the other Israelites would die in the desert. Their children would spend 40 years in the desert, and then be allowed into Canaan.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 15 minutes

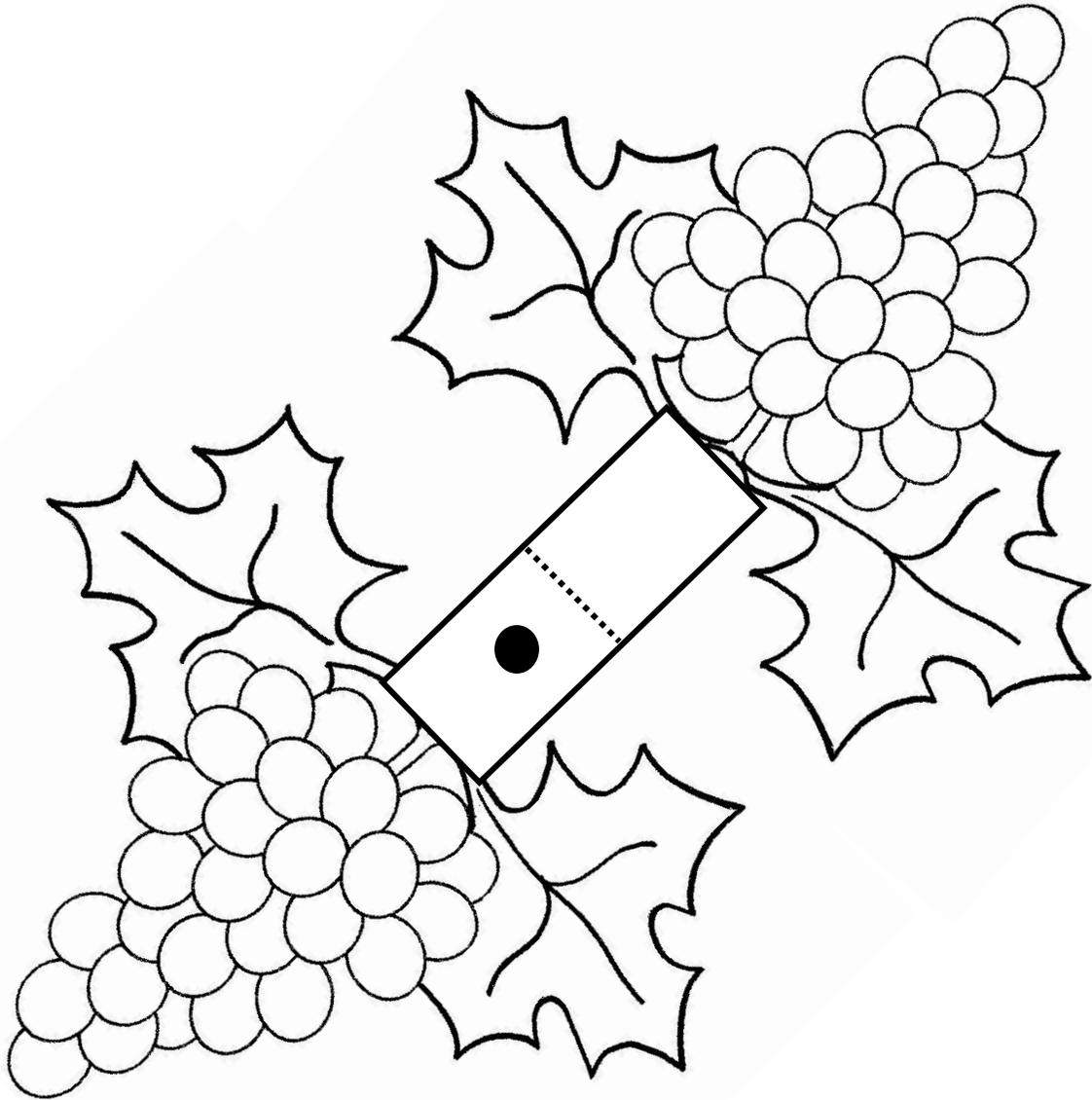
MEMORY VERSE

“Wait for the Lord, be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”
Psalms 27:14

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GRAPE CLUSTER PATTERN



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Read the story about exploring the Promised Land. Then find and circle all the capitalized words in the word search. Words can be found down, across, or diagonally. Some words share letters.

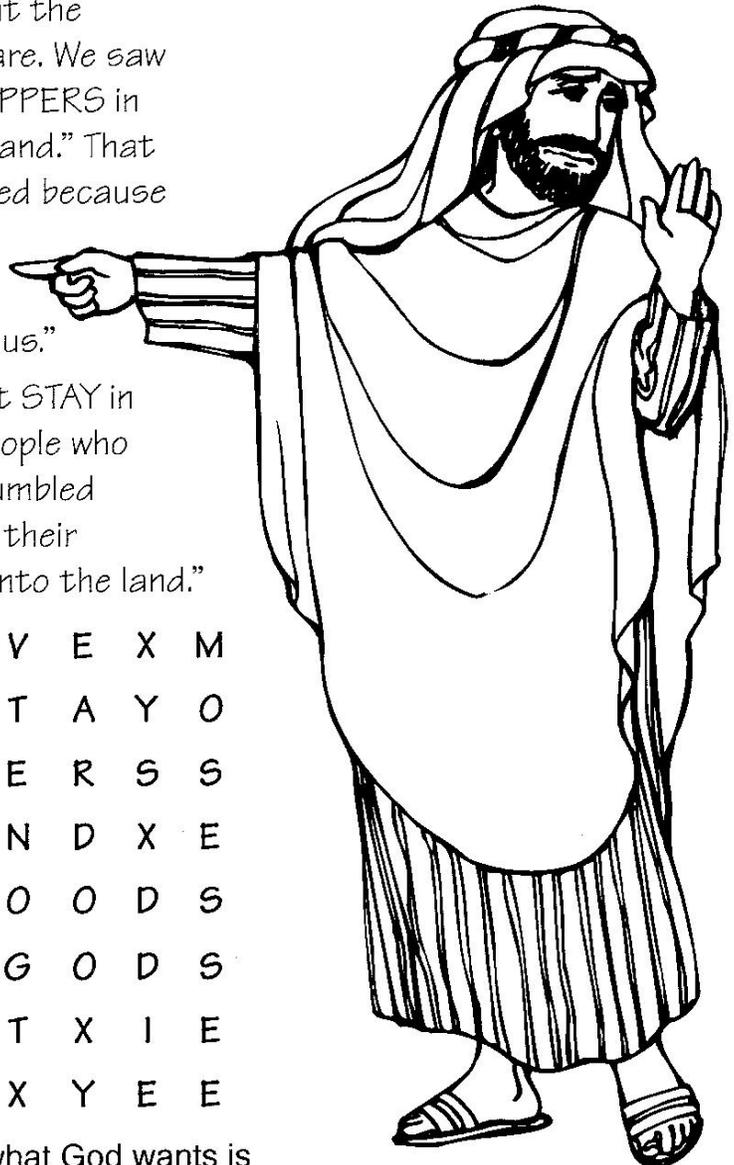
GOD brought the Israelites close to the Promised Land. He said TO MOSES, "Send TWELVE men in to EXPLORE the land. They will SEE what it is like. Then they will COME back to tell you what it is like." The twelve men went into the LAND and returned. They brought back a BIG bunch of GRAPES and FIGS and other fruit.

"It is a GOOD land," TEN men said. "But the people there are STRONGER than we are. We saw HUGE GIANTS. We felt like GRASSHOPPERS in their sight. We must not GO into the land." That night, all the people CRIED and grumbled because of the bad news.

JOSHUA and CALEB said, "We can go in and take the land. The Lord will help us."

God said to the people, "Now you must STAY in the desert for FORTY years. All the people who are 20 years OLD or more and who grumbled against Me will DIE in the desert. Only their children and Joshua and Caleb will go into the land."

B I G O J T W E L V E X M
X C I C O M E X S T A Y O
G R A S S H O P P E R S S
R I N O H X F L A N D X E
A E T L U U I O G O O D S
P D S D A X G R R G O D S
E C A L E B S E T T X I E
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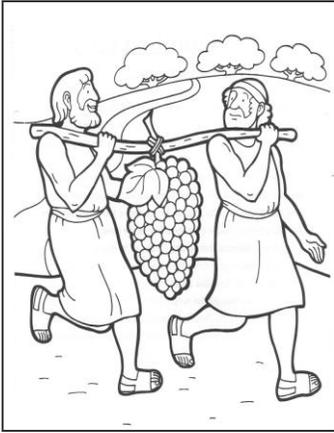


Anything that would stop you from doing what God wants is like those giants. God can defeat any giant! Obey Him always.

THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON NUMBERS 13:1-33

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The Lord wanted to give the land of Canaan to the Israelites. It was a beautiful land. He told Moses to send one leader from each of the twelve

tribes to go into the land of Canaan. They would act as spies. They would find out about the people in the land of Canaan. Were the people weak or strong? Was the land good or bad? Were there walls around the land? Were there trees? The leaders would find out!

The Lord wanted them to bring back some fruit from the land. So the 12 leaders went through the land of Canaan. They found a cluster of grapes. It took two men to carry the grapes on a pole! They also found pomegranates and figs.

After 40 days, the leaders returned. They told Moses about how powerful the people were. They were scared to take the land.

Caleb and Joshua were the only two leaders who thought that they should take the land.

For more details, please read Numbers 13:1-33 in the Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. What was the name of the land that the Lord wanted the people to have?
2. What are some things the leaders brought back from Canaan?
3. Who were the only two leaders who weren't scared to take the land?
4. Why do you think the leaders were supposed to bring back fruit?

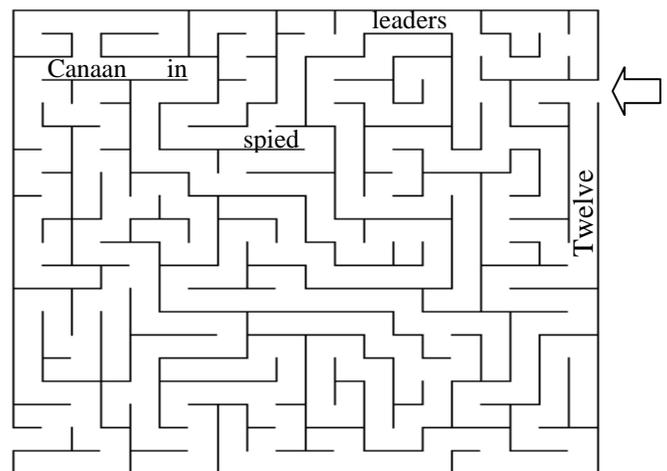
MEMORY VERSE

“Wait for the Lord, be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.”

Psalm 27:14

MAZE MESSAGE

Write down each word as you come to it to find the hidden message.



Hidden message: _____