

Numbers 13:25-33 - HOW TO FEED YOUR FAITH AND STARVE YOUR FEARS

Numbers 13: 17,18 - These are good principles for life: 1. Find out what's ahead of you, as far as you can tell. 2. Thoroughly explore the options. Faith is not ignorance or stupidity. Faith is knowing what's ahead (at least as much as is possible), knowing the options you have, then going with what God tells you to do!

3 introductory statements:

1. People of faith are not people who have had less _____ than people of fear.
2. People of fear usually have seen God work in their lives, and may be fearful WHILE HOLDING EVIDENCE of God's _____ in their hands!
3. The difference is how you look at life's challenges.

I. I FEED MY FEAR WHEN I...

- A. Talk more about the _____ than the positive. V. 28
- B. Build on a negative story to make it _____ - v. 28,29
- C. Reject the encouragement and faith of others - v. 30,31.
- D. Exaggerate and instill _____ in others. V. 32,33, 14:1
- E. Have a poor self-image. V. 33
- F. Cause others to fail in reaching their potential 14:1-3

II. MY EARS OF FEAR CAUSE ME TO...

- A. Underestimate what God can do - 13:26-29
- B. Underestimate what God can do through _____ - v. 33
"Grasshopper complex" - they said, v. 33 - we were IN OUR SIGHT as grasshoppers.
- C. Underestimate what my decision will do - ch. 14
 - a. Cause discouragement - 14:1
 - b. Cause discontent - 14:3,4 It made Egypt look good.
 - c. Deny personal fulfillment - 14:29,30

III. I FEED MY FAITH WHEN I...

- A. Accept the fact that my faith needs to _____
- B. Associate with _____ who have great faith - Rom. 1:12 - we are encouraged by each other's faith; I Thess 3:2 - Timothy will strengthen and encourage your faith.
- C. Read God's Word - Rom. 10:17
- D. _____ the times God honored my faith - journal, diary
- E. Keep my faith _____ - Heb. 11:6 - a rewarder of those who DILIGENTLY seek Him.
- F. Ask God to _____ my faith - Mark 9:24 - I believe; help my unbelief
- G. _____ - James 2:26 - faith without works is dead.

IV. MY EYES OF FAITH WILL GIVE ME

- A. _____ - 13:30
- B. Confidence
- C. Canaan! 14:36-38 - the fulfillment of God's promises to you.

What defeated the children of Israel wasn't the giants - it was their perspective - focusing on the giants rather than on God.

Each of us has fear and faith in us - which are you feeding?

