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God's Plan – Moses & The 12 Spies

"Trust God's Timing"

OPENING:

This week we will continue to follow the story of the Israelites after they came out of Egypt.

Our lesson will focus on the twelve spies exploring the Promised Land.

We will focus on:

- **TRUSTING IN GOD'S PROMISES**
- **WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT**
- **THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT TRUSTING GOD**

Remember:

- The children of Israel were on their way to a new land.
- At this point, the Israelites had been out of Egypt for about a year. They had travelled and camped in the desert for eleven months.
- During this time, God had provided for them and led them by a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night.
- It was after 11 months that God instructed Moses to send out 12 spies (1 from each tribe) to survey the land ahead in Canaan.

Now let's read and find out what happens next to the Israelites:

Read: "Sibling Rivalry" out of the ***ACTION BIBLE***.

Review:

The twelve spies covered a significant distance within their 40-day mission, likely between **500 and 600 miles crossing the land**. They looked at different places in Canaan to see what kinds of defenses and resources were there.

According to the twelve spies, the pros of entering the Promised Land included abundant food and resources and a variety of terrains.

Yet, on the other hand, they also warned of potential dangers and difficulties, such as powerful walled cities fortified with chariots and infantry, heavily armed Giant warriors, and powerful Amorite kings.

The reactions of the twelve spies ultimately led to conflict between two different camps within the Israelites.

Ten spies responded in fear, saying it was impossible to conquer the land. They were so afraid that they even suggested returning to Egypt instead.

However, two spies, Joshua and Caleb, encouraged the people not to fear and promised that with God on their side, they would be able to take possession of the land.

Unfortunately, their message was not listened to, and the people sided with the other spies.

As a result, God condemned them to wander in the wilderness for forty years before they could enter the Promised Land.

Key Points:

TRUST IN GOD'S PROMISES -

Throughout the history of the Israelites, God demonstrated His faithfulness by **keeping all His promises**.

He freed them from slavery in Egypt, fed them with manna in the wilderness, protected them with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, and parted the Red Sea to escape Pharaoh's army. Time and time again, God showed His love and care for His people.

God remained faithful to His promise and brought them out of bondage and toward the land He had promised them.

We can learn here the importance of trusting God and accepting His promises as true. All of God's promises are yes and amen in Christ Jesus.

He is faithful to carry out His promises, even when things look impossible to us.

- By remembering God's faithfulness in the past, we can find confidence in His promises for what lies ahead.
- We can face life's challenges with confidence and courage because God is faithful to His promises.

WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT

- Caleb and Joshua confidently said, "Let's go take the land right now; we can definitely do this!" **They knew God would guide them to victory.**
- The Bible tells us to "live by faith, not by sight" in 2 Corinthians 5:7. This means **we should believe in and rely on God, even when things in the world seem wrong or difficult to understand.**
- Living a life of faith means **depending on God and His plan for us**, no matter what's happening around us.
- When faced with challenges related to our faith, we can confidently turn to prayer and trust in God's guidance as it says in the Bible.
- We can be assured that God hears our prayers and will always lead us towards the right path.
- Or when we see things happening in the world that don't make sense or go against our beliefs, we can still trust that God's Word is the ultimate truth.
- By holding onto our faith and God's promises, we can navigate through the confusion and find peace in His presence.
- **Proverbs 3:5** says, "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and don't rely on your own understanding.*"
- We can learn from the Israelites' example and remember that trusting God is always the best choice.
- When facing tough decisions, we should turn to God and trust Him to guide us.

Ask the children if they have ever been afraid. Talk about some things that scare them. Point out that everyone gets afraid sometimes, but God can give us courage.

- Joshua and Caleb saw scary things but chose to trust God.
- We can also trust God at scary times.
- God is bigger and more powerful than anything or anyone else.
- We should fix our eyes on God rather than the things that worry us.
- The people chose to believe the ten spies rather than trusting and believing in God.
- We must believe God since He always keeps His promises.
- Remember – Trust in God's Promises not in people's fears.

Numbers 13-14 teach us the importance of trusting God's promises, even when things seem impossible, or others doubt.

Just as Caleb and Joshua remained firm in their faith, we should stand up for God's promises in our everyday lives, especially when facing challenges or opposition.

By walking by faith and not by sight, we can put our complete trust in the Lord and His plan for our lives, knowing that He will always guide us in the right direction.

OBJECT LESSON:

Gather twelve objects (coins, pebbles, marbles, etc.) with the same weight and one very heavy item.

Make a simple scale--Place a hanger on a doorknob. Tie a piece of string to each side with a cup on each end. You can now use this scale for this object lesson.

Count as you place two objects in one side and ten in the other.

Show how the ten objects outweigh the two objects.

Then take the very heavy object and place in the cup with the two objects.

The scale will tip to that side.

Use this to show that God's opinion should carry more weight with us than everyone else's combined.

Remind the children that what God says is right —no matter what other people say.

Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for your promises and faithfulness to us. Help us to remember to Trust in You with ALL our Hearts and help us stand up for what God says and not be afraid.

In Jesus' Name – AMEN.

Memory Verse:

³⁰ Then Caleb told the people near Moses to be quiet. Caleb said, "We should go up and take the land for ourselves. We can do it." Numbers 13:30

Watch Video Stories:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0sQzRZ_SR1w

2 Brave Spies from Lifekids.com

<https://app.pureflix.com/videos/407181862717/veggietales-moe-and-the-big-exit>

– Moe & The Big Exit

Crafts: God's Promises Slap Bracelets

Color provided slap bracelets and if enough time, let the kids color extras to share with friends at school. Purchased from amazon.com

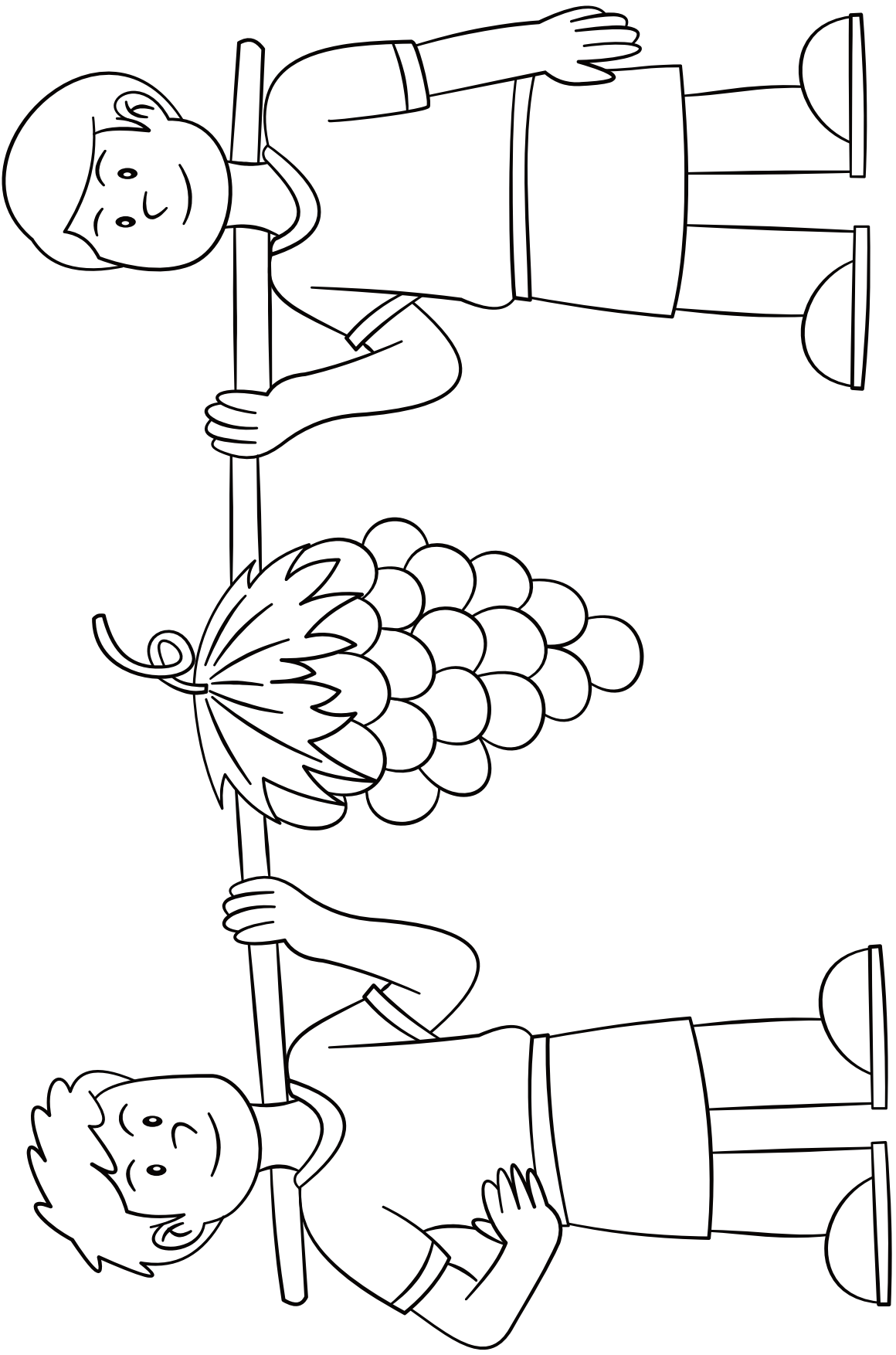
https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0B6H8TNQT?ref=fed_asin_title&th=1



Feel free to take a picture of their art work or share how your activity went! Post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe. Have a Blessed Day & Week! Until we can meet again

~ Teacher Chrissy

Thank you to <https://trueawaykids.com> for their lessons and www.amazon.com for crafts



Can you find the items from the promised land?

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

Words to find

CASTLES

GRAPES

CITIES

HONEY

FIGS

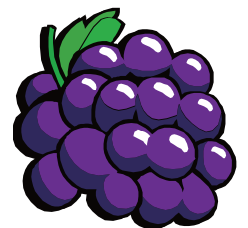
MILK

FRUIT

POMEGRANATES

GIANTS

VALLEY



TRUSTING IN GOD'S PROMISES

Read each of the Bible verses below that emphasize trusting in God's promises.

Reflect on how each verse applies to your life.

BIBLE REFERENCE	
Proverbs 3:5-6	
2 Corinthians 1:20	
Hebrews 11:1	
Romans 8:28	
Isaiah 41:10	
Matthew 6:33	
Philippians 4:19	

