

HOUSEGROUP NOTES: PERSONAL - Week Beginning 23rd October 2016

“AN INVITATION TO CONQUER”

Read: (Numbers 13 & 14)

Fredrick Langbridge is well known for saying that,
***“Two men looked out from prison bars,
One saw mud, the other saw stars.”***

WHAT do you think the main difference is between a positive and negative attitude? Do you see OBSTACLES or OPPORTUNITIES – MUD or STARS?

DAY 1: (Numbers 13:1-25)

Even though the land of Canaan was promised to them and God had provided for them, the people still did not trust God to bring them into the Promised Land safely.

Q. WHY do you think an exploration of the land was called for?

Q. WHAT questions might you ask yourself before you begin a new work or activity for the Lord?

Q. WHY do you think they had to bring back fruit with them?

Q. WHY is it important to finish a task that you have begun? (Vs.25)

DAY 2: (Numbers 13:26-29)

‘But’ (Vs.28) is a common conjunction in the English language. We hardly give any serious thought to it. Nevertheless it’s a word to be used with extreme caution because in any language **‘but’** often nullifies whatever preceded it. So the spies were actually saying *“Everything God told you about that land was true. BUT He lied when he said it will be ours because there’s no way we can conquer it”*

Q. WHAT did the men discover about the land and its inhabitants?

Q. WHAT conclusions did they reach about it and **HOW** might that affect us?

DAY 3: (Numbers 13:30 & 14:24)

It is our attitude that determines our destination. Following Christ has become unpopular and Christians are easily ridiculed, but Jesus wasn’t afraid to be challenged and held fast to what He knew to be true.

- Q. HOW did the report of Joshua & Caleb differ from that brought by the rest?
- Q. HOW can you stand with God's help against the majority of people who complain or rebel against God at home, school, work or even the church?
- Q. Does this teach us anything about peer pressure at work, school or play?

DAY 4: (Numbers 13:26-14:4)

If positive attitudes help us to trust God against all odds, and negative attitudes make our hearts vulnerable and exposable to despair, then we need to hear God's promise for us more than what others pronounce to us.

- Q. WHY do you think Caleb and Joshua were willing to stand out from the crowd instead of trying to fit in and go with the flow?
- Q. WHERE did it lead them to that the others couldn't go, and WHAT does that say to us now in our own situation and among our own troubles and tribe?

DAY 5: (Numbers 14:5-19)

If we put what stands against us ahead of God it will lead to fear, but faith flourishes when we look at God first and view our needs and our tasks by Him.

- Q. WHAT do you think going back to Egypt means?
- Q. HAVE you ever wanted to go back to Egypt and WHY?

DAY 6: (Numbers 14:20-45)

When we fail to take God at His word and seek to do things our own way, He will allow us to wander. In the midst of our wanderings we often miss out on the blessings God has for us.

- Q. What blessings have you missed out on because of your own wanderings?
- Q. Why is obedience so important to God?
- Q. WHERE might God be asking you to step out in faith and do something?

DAY 7: Review Numbers 13-14.

PRAYER matters and can change things because God does what we ask. LOOK at how and WHY Moses PRAYED and PRAY about things yourself.

Shaun