

WATCH this week's Bible Story Video on our website:
www.goodshepherdholmen.org/childrens-ministry

READ this week's story: [The Story Bible page 124](#)

As you watch and listen to the story this week, listen for the answer to these questions: **“How did the Israelites rebel against God?”** and **“How did God punish the Israelites for their rebellion?”**

God promised to bring his people to the “promised land” of Canaan, and they were almost there. How exciting this must have been for the Israelites! Throughout their journey, God had protected and provided for them in so many ways! All these proofs of God’s power and ability to protect and provide should have increased the Israelites trust in God. Think about it, your parents and family protect you and provide you what you need, and you trust your parents and family, don’t you?? Is it surprising to find out in our story today, that the Israelites did not trust that God could protect them and provide them with this land that he had promised them?

When the 12 spies went into the land of Canaan, they found that it was indeed a land flowing with milk and honey. It was a great land that produced great fruit! Yes, the land had strong people that could fight them, but God had protected his people in so many ways, how could they not trust that God would help them in this situation, especially since this was the land that he had promised to give them? 10 of the spies did not trust that God could help them, but 2 of the spies trusted that God would give them the land of Canaan and help them defeat anyone that tried to stop them from taking the land. These two very smart and trusting spies were Caleb and Joshua.

The spies that did not trust that God could help them talked all of the other people into not trusting God also. They wanted to pick a new leader and leave this place and go back to Egypt. God was not happy that his people were rebelling against him by not trusting him and wanting to pick a new leader and leave this land, but Moses asked God to forgive them. Even though God did forgive his people, he still wanted to teach them that they must not continue to rebel against him, so God did not let his people enter the Promised Land yet. They were to wander in the desert for 40 more years and any of them that were older than 20 years at this time would die in the desert during these 40 years – except Caleb and Joshua who trusted God. God allowed Caleb and Joshua to enter the Promised Land because they trusted in God.

God punished the Israelites, by not letting them enter the Canaan and by having them wander in the desert for 40 years. God uses our parents, teachers and others to discipline us when we sin, but we can trust that our sins are forgiven. Romans 6:23 reminds us **“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”** We can take comfort in knowing that we have forgiveness of sins and a gift of eternal life because Jesus lived a perfect, sinless life and died for us! Knowing that Jesus has taken care of our biggest battle – sin, we can trust that he will help us with all our troubles.

This week, there will be a worksheet for you to complete on the back side of this page and also an art project for you to work on. We would love to see pictures of your art projects – so have your parents email them to us!

God’s blessings on your week!

Want to share your artwork with us?

Email a picture of your Sunday School craft to office@gsholmen.org

*We will be showing pictures sent to us on the Church Screens during announcements