



CONSIDER IT

LEADER DEVO

“Today you will know that the living God is among you.”

—Joshua 3:10a

When the dozen scouts who checked out the Promised Land returned, all but Joshua and Caleb were ready to head back to Egypt. The land was wonderful, but full of giants. And standing next to those giants, the scouts said they felt like grasshoppers. Squishable grasshoppers.

That’s when Joshua and Caleb spoke up.

They reminded everyone that God had led His people to where they were standing. That God was with them, making good on His promise of a new home. That God would protect them—giants or no giants.

It was a great speech. A *wonderful* speech. And God’s people reacted by wondering where they could find enough sharp rocks to stone the 2 spies to death.

That’s what happens in grasshopper moments: You forget who’s on your side. You forget whose side you’re on. You forget that, when you stand with God, God will fight the battle too.

Grasshopper moments come in all shapes and sizes. A lost job, a bad choice comes home to roost, a hole in your life that feels too big to fill. Anything big and scary can take your eyes off God’s promises—and His friendship.

But you’re not alone, and you’re not helpless. The safest place you can possibly be is with a Father who’s not worried about a few giants but is concerned about you.

So follow God faithfully—and without fear. God promises a new home with Him is yours no matter what. No giant can take that from you.



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BIBLE BACKGROUND

GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

If you always heard that God’s people left Egypt, wandered in the wilderness for 40 years, and then arrived at Canaan, the Promised Land, you heard wrong. They actually reached the edge of the land God promised them fairly quickly—but then they were sent back into the wilderness for decades of repentance.

Read Numbers 13:1-14:45

No spies were needed to explore the land promised to God’s people. When God spoke to Moses from the burning bush, He told Moses that Canaan was “a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey ...” (Exodus 3:8). And who cared if people populating Canaan were large? God had promised the land to His people and could evict whoever needed to vacate the premises.

But the spies went, and their report caused God’s people to question God’s faithfulness and ability to keep His promise. God responded by threatening their extinction (Numbers 14:12) and then sending them away from Canaan’s border back toward the Red Sea (Numbers 14:25), off into 40 years of repentance. Only a few of the people over the age of 20 would live to see God fulfill His promise (Numbers 14:29-31).

Doubting that God was capable of keeping His promise carried consequences.

Read Joshua 1–6

God tasks Joshua with leading His people across the Jordan River into Canaan, doing so with courage fueled by God’s promise to not fail or abandon Joshua.

Joshua follows the Lord’s commands to the letter, including pausing to create a memorial to their entering the land (Joshua 4:1-7). His people once had forgotten how God kept His promises; God didn’t want that same mistake happening again.

Not forgetting as they crossed into the land, as they conquered Jericho through His power, and as they spread out and occupied Canaan.

That strategy—building reminders of God’s power to keep His promises—is one that can be equally helpful today. What sort of memorial might you create to remind you that God is faithful to keep His promises?