

Faith Living in the Midst of the Seemingly Impossible, Part 1
Numbers 13

Getting Started

- ❖ What are you facing that fits into the category of “the seemingly impossible”?

Key Ideas for Discussion

1. A definition of “Faith”: Faith is believing the Word of God and submitting to the will of God and then living as if the impossible is already done and experiencing supernatural peace while waiting
2. An Outline of Numbers 13.
 - A. God’s Directive to Spy-Out the Promised Land. (v.1-3)
 - B. Moses’ Instructions to the Spies. (v.17-20)
 - C. The Expedition. (v.21-24)
 - D. The Description of their Findings. (v.25-29)
 - E. The Minority and Majority Reports. (v.30-33)
3. Three Truths from this Text
 - A. Faith Living in the midst of the seemingly impossible focuses on the will of God rather than the seemingly impossible.
 - i. We know His Will through the Bible’s clear declarations
 - ii. We know His Will through God’s ordained authorities (Ex: Parents, Government, Church Elders)
 - iii. We know His Will through our conscience that is led by the Spirit.
 - B. Faith Living In The Midst Of The Seemingly Impossible Expects Fears But Does Not Run From Them (Numbers 13:30-31) [Next Week]
 - C. Faith Living In The Midst Of The Seemingly Impossible Trusts In God’s Power, Not In One’s Own Resources. (Numbers 14:11-39) [Next Week]

Digging Deeper

- ❖ Revisit the sermon outline, Read Numbers 13 and answer the following:
 - Analyze what the spies said. What was the purpose of discussing in detail the strength of the enemy?
 - How did this report actually magnify the power of their enemy in their eyes?
 - How was this an evil report of unbelief? After all, weren’t they simply giving the facts?
 - Contrast this evil report with the report of faith and belief that Caleb gave in verse 30 where it says, “Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, ‘Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.’ ” What was the difference between Caleb’s report of faith and the unbelieving report? What actions did the two different reports produce?

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- How can we apply this truth in our lives personally? If God has given us a Promised Land, dream, or a vision, how can we make sure that we respond as Caleb did when he said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it”?

- ❖ Randy gave several examples from the Scriptures where God reveals His will, yet, Christians often struggle with believing and obeying which is fundamental to living by faith. What are some clear commands and teachings in Scripture that you are struggling to obey?

- ❖ Randy also taught us that we discern the will of God through His ordained authorities like the government and church elders.
 - Are there any limitations or conditions to that this?
 - It is common for some to automatically respond with skepticism to the leadership of the church’s elders or to political leadership of the opposing party. Why do you think this is? Do you struggle with trusting and following your leaders? If so, what prompts this response and how could this be resolved?

- ❖ Randy pointed out that you can absolutely be in God’s will, yet, fail in what you are attempting. Discuss this idea.

- ❖ Close with prayer for our nation’s and our church’s leaders. May they lead us according to the WILL of God and to the WISDOM of God.

WORSHIP RESOURCE

January 10, 2021 | Baptism of the Lord

WORSHIP SONGS

LAY ME DOWN

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Jonas Myrin, and Matt Redman, 2012

With this heart open wide from the depths from the heights
I will bring a sacrifice. With these hands lifted high hear my song
hear my cry. I will bring a sacrifice; I will bring a sacrifice.

*I lay down me down I'm not my own, I belong to you alone.
Lay me down Lay me down. Oh, hand on my heart this much is true,
there's no life apart from You. Lay me down Lay me down.*

Letting go of my pride giving up all my rights
Take this life and let it shine Take this life and let it shine

It will be my joy to say Your will Your way (2x)
It will be my joy to say Your will Your way always.

YES I WILL

Words and Music by Eddie Hoagland, Mia Fieldes, and Jonathan Smith, 2018

I count on one thing: the same God that never fails
will not fail me now, You won't fail me now.
In the waiting, the same God who's never late
is working all things out. You're working all things out.

*Yes, I will lift You high in the lowest valley. Yes, I will bless Your name.
Yes, I will sing for joy when my heart is heavy. All my days, yes, I will.*

I choose to praise, to glorify, glorify,
the name of all names that nothing can stand against.

TURN YOUR EYES UPON JESUS

Words and Music by Helen H. Lemmel

O soul, are you weary and troubled? No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior, and life more abundant and free!

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face;
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim
in the light of His glory and grace.*

Through death into life everlasting He passed,
and we follow Him there; o'er us sin no more hath dominion
for more than conqu'rors we are!

His Word shall not fail you He promised: believe Him, and all will be
well. Then go to a world that is dying, His perfect salvation to tell!

WHEN JESUS WENT TO JORDAN'S STREAM

Words by Martin Luther, ca. 1520 / Music by Paxson Jeancake, 2016

When Jesus went to Jordan's stream his Father's will obeying;
and was baptized by John, there came a voice from heaven saying:
"This is my dear, beloved Son, upon whom rests my favor."
And till God's will is fully done, he will not bend or waver.
For he is Christ the Savior.

The Holy Spirit then was shone, a dove on him descending;
The Triune God is thus made known in Christ as love unending.
He taught, he healed, he raised the dead, yet, in his great endeavor
to save us, his own blood was shed; but death could hold him never.
He rose, and lives forever.

He came by water and by blood to heal our lost condition;
He cleanses, reconciles to God, and gives the Great Commission.
Then let us not heed worldly lies nor rest upon our merit,
but trust in Christ who will baptize with water and the Spirit
that we may life inherit.

GOODNESS OF GOD

Words and Music by Jenn Johnson, 2018

I love You, Lord. Oh Your mercy never fails me; all my days
I've been held in Your hands. From the moment that I wake up
until I lay my head, Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

*And all my life You have been faithful. And all my life You have been
so, so good. With every breath that I am able
Oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.*

I love Your voice; You have led me through the fire. In darkest nights
You are close like no other. I've known You as a Father; I've known
You as a friend, and I have lived in the goodness of God.

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me (2x)
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now; I give you everything.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me

DAILY READINGS | BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP

SUNDAY | Ps. 29; Isaiah 40:1-11; Hebrews 1:1-12; John 1:1-34
MONDAY | Ps. 5; Isaiah 40:12-24; Ephesians 1:1-14; Mark 1:1-13
TUESDAY | Ps. 133; Isaiah 40:25-31; Ephesians 1:15-23; Mark 1:14-28
WEDNESDAY | Ps. 1; Isaiah 41:1-16; Ephesians 2:1-10; Mark 1:29-45
THURSDAY | Ps. 16; Isaiah 41:17-29; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 2:1-12
FRIDAY | Ps. 65; Isaiah 42:1-17; Ephesians 3:1-13; Mark 2:13-22
SATURDAY | Ps. 138; Isaiah 43:1-13; Ephesians 3:14-21; Mark 2:23-3:6

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Creator God, the one who said, "Let there be light," and there was
light, would you bring new life into the darkness of our hearts. As
those baptized in the name of Jesus, and regenerated by the power of
the Holy Spirit, would you continue to cleanse and sanctify us from sin
and idolatry. In humility, may we turn to you in our time of need. In
the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.



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