

# The Twelve Spies

---

Wednesday Plan

SCRIPTURE

Numbers 13–14

MEMORY VERSE

Numbers 14:9

OPTIONAL VIDEO

Joshua and Caleb Explore Canaan

<https://southside.cc/386-639>

---

*God is bigger than what we're afraid of.*

## For the Teacher

Wednesday night reinforces what the kids learned on Sunday. Don't re-teach the whole spy story — they heard it. Tonight is about naming the giants the kids actually carry around all week and putting them next to God.

### KEY TRUTH

God is bigger than what we're afraid of.

**Same bottom line as Sunday, by design.** Wednesday uses the exact same sentence the kids heard on Sunday. Repeat it. Have them say it back. Don't paraphrase or soften it — the repetition is the point.

**The two columns are the spine of tonight.** Sunday introduced two ways of looking at the giants: the ten spies measured them against themselves; Joshua and Caleb measured them against God. Tonight you build that comparison physically — kids name the things they're afraid of (giants), and then you literally move those things over under God's column. The point isn't that the fear isn't real. It's that God is bigger than it.

**What to skip.** Don't re-read Numbers 13–14 in full. The kids did that Sunday. Tonight you'll re-read Numbers 13:33 (the grasshopper verse) and Numbers 14:9 (the memory verse). If a kid wasn't there Sunday, give them a one-sentence catch-up: "God's people sent twelve spies into the Promised Land — ten were scared of the people who lived there, but two trusted God to bring them in."

**Energy management.** Wednesday is built around a movement game and a quiet take-home. The Giants vs. God activity gets loud and a little silly — that's fine, the contrast between giants and God *should* be physical for kids this age. The Spy Binoculars craft slows them back down. End quiet, on the prayer card.

### MATERIALS

- Bibles for every student
- Whiteboard or large paper, markers
- Two large pieces of paper or two posters labeled **GIANTS** and **GOD** (taped to opposite walls of the room)
- A pad of sticky notes (any color)
- One sharpie or thick marker per kid
- Two empty toilet paper or paper towel tubes per kid
- Tape (masking or scotch)
- Stickers, markers, or crayons for decorating
- **God Is Bigger** prayer cards (printed in advance from this week's activities)
- Pencils

## 1. Gather

Welcome the kids back. Tell them:

### SAY

*On Sunday we learned one big idea, and we're going to learn it again tonight. Say it with me: God is bigger than what we're afraid of.*

Have them say it back. Then again, louder. Then in a whisper.

Write it on the board.

Tell them tonight is going to be different from Sunday — they're going to name the things that feel

like giants in their own lives, and they're going to make a tool to help them remember to look at God instead. But first, a quick review.

## 2. The Story

### Quick Review

#### ASK

*What did the spies see in the Promised Land — and how did the ten spies feel about it?*

You're looking for: the land was good (giant fruit), but the people were big. The ten spies said they felt like grasshoppers. They were scared.

Have them open to Numbers 13:33 and read it together once. Then turn to Numbers 14:6 and have a confident reader read 14:6–9 aloud.

### Numbers 14:6–9

Write the two short reports on the board:

**TEN SPIES:** "We can't."

**JOSHUA & CALEB:** "The LORD is with us."

#### SAY

*The ten spies looked at the giants and forgot about God. Joshua and Caleb looked at God and the giants got smaller. That's the whole difference. And it's the same choice you and I have every week.*

## 3. The Work

### Giants vs. God

Point to the two posters on opposite walls — **GIANTS** on one, **GOD** on the other. Hand each kid two or three sticky notes and a marker. Tell them: "Write down something that feels like a giant in your life right now. Something that scares you, or worries you, or feels too big. One thing per sticky note. Don't put your name on it."

Give them about three minutes. While they write, walk around. If a kid is stuck, ask quietly: "What's something you don't want to think about? What's something you wish you didn't have to do this week?" Help them name something specific, not "everything."

When they're done, have each kid walk over and stick their notes on the **GIANTS** poster. Stand in front of it together. Read a few of the giants out loud (the ones the kids wrote), without saying whose they are.

#### SAY

*These are real. We're not pretending they aren't. The ten spies were right that the giants in the land were big. They were really big. But they were wrong about God.*

Open your Bible to Numbers 14:9. Read it out loud:

#### SCRIPTURE

*Numbers 14:9*

*The LORD is with us. Do not be afraid.*

Now, one at a time, walk over to the **GIANTS** poster, peel a sticky note off, and walk it across the room to the **GOD** poster. As you stick each one, say the bottom line out loud: *God is bigger than what we're afraid of.* After two or three, hand the marker over and let the kids do the rest. Every kid moves at least one.

When all the notes are over on the **GOD** poster, stand together and look at it. Tell them: that's not pretend. That's how Joshua and Caleb saw the world. They saw the giants and they saw God, and they knew which one was bigger.

### Spy Binoculars

Hand each kid two empty cardboard tubes and tape. Show them how to tape the two tubes side by side to make "binoculars." Once everyone has theirs assembled, hand out markers and stickers and have them decorate.

Tell them to write one short phrase along the side of their binoculars:

### LOOK AT GOD

While they decorate, walk around. When most are done, have them all hold the binoculars up to their eyes and look at the **GOD** poster across the room. Then say:

#### SAY

*The ten spies were looking at the giants. Joshua and Caleb were looking at God. Whatever you point your eyes at gets bigger in your mind. So this week, when something scary shows up, point your eyes at God first.*

Tell them to take the binoculars home. When something feels too big, they can pick them up, point them at the ceiling, and remember: God is bigger.

## 4. The Point

### God Is Bigger Prayer Card

Hand out the **God Is Bigger** prayer cards. Have each student fill in the prompt:

*God, you are bigger than \_\_\_\_\_.*

Tell them to write down one specific thing — the same kind of "giant" they put on the sticky notes earlier, or a different one. They'll take the card home and put it somewhere they'll see it during the week — by their bed, on the fridge, in their backpack.

#### NOTE

While they fill out the cards, walk around. If a kid is stuck, ask them: "What's the giant you're going to need help with this week?" Help them turn it into one short sentence on the card.

### Memory Verse and Closing

When they're done, have everyone come back together. Read together one more time:

#### SCRIPTURE

*Numbers 14:9*

*The LORD is with us. Do not be afraid.*

Then say the bottom line one final time, with the kids:

#### SAY

*God is bigger than what we're afraid of.*

Close in prayer:

**PRAY**

*God, you were with your people at the edge of the Promised Land, and you are with us tonight. Thank you for being bigger than the giants in our lives. When we get scared this week, help us pick up the binoculars, look at our cards, and remember that you are with us. Make our faith strong and our fear small. Amen.*