



Topeka Bible Church
Settled Living in Unsettled Times, #6:
"Seize the Opportunity"
Community Group Study Questions
Numbers 13 & 14 and selected passages

1. Think about a time when you were wrestling with unbelief in God's promises to you as His child. (*Ephesians 1:3-8*) What were the circumstances? Were you able to work through your unbelief (*Mark 9:23-24*)? How did you work through it?

2. What incredible opportunity did the Israelites have (*Numbers 13:2, 17, 26-27; Exodus 3:8*)? How did most of the spies view this opportunity (*Numbers 13:28-29, 31; 14:2-4; Deuteronomy 1:28*)? Why did they take this view (*Matthew 14:30-31*)?

3. How did Joshua and Caleb see this opportunity (*Numbers 13:30; 14:6-9*)? Why were they able to see it from this perspective (*Psalms 37:23; Deuteronomy 31:6*)? How did the rest of the Israelites respond to these two men (*Numbers 14:10; cf. Exodus 17:4*)?

4. God seems ready to destroy all of the Israelites (*Numbers 14:11-12*). How does Moses "reason" with God on this issue (*Numbers 14:15-16; Exodus 32:11; Psalm 106:23*)? Did God change His mind on this issue (*Numbers 14:20; 1 Samuel 15:29*)?

5. While God is gracious and loving towards His people (*Numbers 14:18; Exodus 34:6-7*), He still decides to punish the unbelieving Israelites (*Numbers 14:21-23*). Does His punishment seem too harsh (*Numbers 14:29, 32-33*)?

6. How long did the survivors have to endure God's judgment in the wilderness (*Numbers 14:34*)? After reading this chapter, do you understand the seriousness of the sin of unbelief more fully (*Hebrews 3:16-19*)? Why is unbelief such a big deal to God (*Mark 9:19; John 20:25-27*)?

7. How does our unbelief impact our relationship with God (*Hebrews 3:7-11; 11:6*)? What was Caleb's reward for his belief (*Numbers 14:24; Deuteronomy 1:35-36*)? What reward awaits us when we trust in and obey God when we face of challenges (*Matthew 11:28; Philippians 4:6-7*)?

Memory Verse:

"But My servant Caleb, because he has had a different spirit and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land which he entered, and his descendants shall take possession of it."

(Numbers 14:24, NASB)