

Obstacles and Opportunities

Final part of the series, "Navigating Change: How to Journey Through Uncertainty"

Saturday, July 25 & Sunday, July 26, 2020 | Pastor Alfredo Canencia, Jr.

"And they told him, 'We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. ²⁸However, the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large. And besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there...' ³⁰But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, 'Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it.' ³¹Then the men who had gone up with him said, 'We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are.' ³²So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, 'The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height. ³³And there we saw the Nephilim, and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them.'" (Numbers 13:27-28, 30-33 ESV)

Discern POSSIBILITIES in the midst of adversities.

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Have disciplined FOCUS when fear approaches.

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"And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, 'Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! ³Why is the Lord bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?' ⁴And they said to one another, 'Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.'" (Numbers 14:2-4 ESV)

Move forward responsibly in faith, focus on God and look for UNIQUE opportunities.

"And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes ⁷and said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, 'The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is an exceedingly good land. ⁸If the Lord delights in us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. ⁹Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the Lord is with us; do not fear them.'" (Numbers 14:6-9 ESV)

RESOLVE to embrace a spirit of faith.

"But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord, ²²none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, ²³shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it. ²⁴But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.'" (Numbers 14:21-24 ESV)

"So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief." (Hebrews 3:19 ESV)