

Beyond the Horizon

Numbers 13

The 12 spies reported that the ‘*promised land*’ was wonderful provision from God.

“...indeed a magnificent country.” 27b (nlt)

Hope entered the hearts of the people for a better and brighter future.

Numbers 13:28-29 (nkjv) “NEVERTHELESS the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there.

The Anaks were great in size and wicked people. They brought great fear into the people.

29: The Amalekites dwell in the land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan.”

The people felt deflated, and their hope started to vanish.

The Israelites had to decide whether to enter this land of provision!

Caleb, a man of faith and courage spoke up. He was prepared to pursue God’s will.

Numbers 13:30-32 Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.” **31:** But the men who had gone up with him said, “We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” **32:** And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, “The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size.

They were so mindful of the size of their challenge they lost sight of the size of their God.

We can be intimidated by the negatives and obstacles and fail to act. Becoming stagnate.

Fear and a lack of faith causes stagnation – inactivity.

Hebrews 3:15-19 returns to this event to illustrate the hard-heartedness of God’s people, and to demonstrate the result of disobedience and a lack of faith.

Don’t let the difficulties or the opposition cause us to lose sight of God’s guidance and provision.

Wherever God guides He WILL provide!

Jesus has a blueprint for our lives - a purpose to fulfil - a destiny to pursue!

Jesus' blueprint for ACC is to be a **New Testament Apostolic Church**. To reach the lost in Australia and the nations beyond as we have been doing now for 75+ years.

This is our DNA. We have not arrived at our final destination.

We need to continue to respond to the Great Commission motivated by a pioneering spirit in our ACC churches and Christian schools by reaching new horizons and frontiers as the Lord leads us.

The pioneer spirit has an **insatiable appetite**, and **deep thirst** that will never be satisfied until God's purposes are achieved.

Jesus was always looking for another town, city, village to preach!

A place where they had not yet heard the good news.

Mark 1:38 (niv) Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else to the nearby villages, so I can preach there also. That is why I have come".

Matthew 11:1 (nlt) When Jesus had finished giving these instructions to His twelve disciples, He went off teaching and preaching in towns throughout the country.

Luke 4:43 (niv) *But he said, "I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns also, because that is why I was sent."*

Joshua 14:6-13

Caleb wanted that mountain!

He waited 45 years.

Like Caleb, we must be faithful to God, not only at the start of our Christian journey, but throughout our entire Christian life!

Caleb knew without a challenge there is no operation of faith.

God has called ACC to be an Apostolic Church that is pioneering new frontiers, and new horizons locally, nationally, and internationally.

BIG IDEA: Global missions is not something we do - it is who we are!

Jesus was a pioneer.

John 6:38 (nlt) *For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent Me, not to do My own will.*

John 3:16-18 (niv) *For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to*

save the world through Him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.