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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

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Caleb and Joshua sent as Spies.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

A middle-aged man and his wife were enjoying a pleasant walk in the country. They were going to take a short cut across some fields, when they noticed a large, fierce bull looking straight at them. In great fear, they quickly decided to find another way. They scrambled over a low wall, and through a lot of bushes, then looked behind to check if the bull was coming after them. To their surprise, they saw there was no danger at all! The bull was tied up!

Sometimes in life, we become frozen by fear, yet some of the things we fear most, never happen. Fears rob us in many ways: we lose peace of mind; we lose hope for the future, and we lose our trust in God's power to help us.

The Bible book Isaiah, chapter 26, says this, "You, Lord, give perfect peace to those who keep their purpose firm and put their trust in You."

When we allow the Living God to control our lives, He gives us His peace. We can be sure He is working all things together for our good.

We may still have difficulties, but we have His presence with us, and His peace, in spite of everything.

In today's Bible Adventure, the Children of Israel faced a big disappointment. They gave in to fear, and were blind to God's mighty power to help them.

They were close to the promised land of Canaan, and they needed to know what was ahead for them. Moses chose one man out of each of the 12 tribes to go into Canaan, and find out what the land was like. Was it fertile? Were there plenty of trees? Were the people strong, and did they live in open villages, or in walled cities?

The twelve spies travelled all over the land. They found the soil was rich and grew wonderful crops. And they also found the people living there were strong and fierce. When they came back to the camp, with some of the amazing fruit they found, Joshua and Caleb wanted their people to go up straightaway and take the land. But the other ten spies were afraid of the giants in Canaan. They spread a very different story.

DRAMA - The Bible In Living Sound.

Canaan was a land of plenty. Have you ever seen a bunch of grapes so big it took 2 men to carry it? That was the sort of rich harvest God wanted to give His people. Can you imagine how much they would enjoy such fruit after their dreary time in the wilderness?

The Almighty God had brought them safely to the borders of Canaan, the land He had promised to give them. He had shown His great power in many ways, after they left Egypt. He had shown He was worthy of their trust, and they should have believed Him. But they were only looking at their own weakness. They could see the power of their enemies; they knew they could not win by themselves, and they refused to trust in the Almighty God. They would not listen to Joshua and Caleb, but they did listen to the other ten faithless spies. They let fear and unbelief overcome them. Once again they grumbled and talked about going back to their slavery in Egypt. So God said that generation would never enter the Promised Land. They would die in the desert, and only their children would settle in Canaan.

But before we judge them too harshly, let us ask ourselves when we face something that looks impossible to us, what do we do? Do we make the problem even bigger and allow fear to overcome us? Or, do we take the problem to our Heavenly Father? Do we trust Him to help, and show us what to do? You see, we too have to choose. Our beliefs determine what we fear.

Many years later, King David faced frightening enemies all around him. But he learned the secret to overcoming his fear.

In Psalm 56, in the Bible, David said this, "When I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God, whose word I praise, - in God I trust: I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?"

Moses prayed for his people, and God forgave them, but they missed out on the wonderful blessings God had wanted to give them. All those over 20 years of age died in the wilderness.

Joshua and Caleb did believe God. They had pleaded with the people to trust God for victory. And God honoured their faith; they were the only two, out of the whole tribe, who at last, shared the victory and settled in Canaan.

But God judged the other 10 spies who had told lies and had sown fear in the people. They all died of disease.

A wise saint once said: The remarkable thing about fearing God is that when you fear God, you fear nothing else. Whereas if you do not fear God you fear everything else. Where is your life today?

Are you letting fear and unbelief keep you from the life God wants for you? In the Bible
book John, chapter 10, the Lord Jesus Christ said this, "I have come in order that you might
have life in all its fullness."

And the Bible book 2 Timothy, chapter 1, says "The Spirit God has given us does not make us fearful; instead, His Spirit fills us with power, love, and self-control."

God's promises are true and faithful. Trust in Him, today and always.

MUSIC - <u>Integrity Music</u>.

That was John Barbour singing "He will not leave you."

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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