Choices Part IV; October 21, 2018

"What You See Is What You Get"

10 of the 12 Israelite spies: We checked out the land, just as you'd instructed us to do, and here's what we discovered: It is rich, very rich. One could say that it flows with milk and honey; but the people who already live there are really strong. Their cities are enormous and fortified...No way. We can't do it. The people who are already there are too strong for us...The people themselves are gigantic...We look like grasshoppers compared to them, and they know it...So the report of these other scouts was quite disheartening; it made the people question God's promise.

- Numbers 13:27-28, 31-33 (Voice)

Caleb and Joshua: They said to all the people of Israel, "The land we traveled through and explored is a wonderful land! And if the Lord is pleased with us, he will bring us safely into that land and give it to us. It is a rich land flowing with milk and honey. Do not rebel against the Lord, and don't be afraid of the people of the land. They are only helpless prey to us! They have no protection, but the Lord is with us! Don't be afraid of them!"

— Numbers 14:7-9 (NLT)

Focus on **God** not the **Obstacle**:

Focus on God's Ability not your Inability.

The Lord said to him, "I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man."

— Judges 6:16 (NLT)

Jesus looked at them intently and said, "Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible."

— Matthew 19:26 (NLT)

Focus on God's Word not what you can See.

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous.

- Joshua 1:8 (ESV)

The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever."

— Isaiah 40:8 (NLT)

Focus on God's Past <u>Faithfulness</u> not your present <u>Fear</u>.

I go after it with a club and rescue the lamb from its mouth. If the animal turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll do it to this pagan Philistine, too, for he has defied the armies of the living God!

- 1 Samuel 17:35-36 (NLT)