

# Following or Wandering ?

Numbers 13 and 14



# Background

God's People approached the Promised Land

There was no need to send spies, God had already promised. He instructed them to send to confirm His report.

The men selected as spies were to be leaders, one from each of the twelve tribes (Numbers 13:2-15).



# ***I. We Wander, When We Fail to Recognize God's Leadership***

We fail to see God's leadership when:

## **A. Complain**

32 So they gave out to the sons of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone, in spying it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people whom we saw in it are men of *great size.*"



# *I. We Wander, When We Fail to Recognize God's Leadership*

We fail to see God's leadership when:

B. Forget who is in charge

31 But the men who had gone up with Caleb said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are too strong for us."



# *I. We Wander, When We Fail to Recognize God's Leadership*

We fail to see God's leadership when:

C. Complacency takes over

14:4 So they said to one another, "Let us appoint a leader and return to Egypt."

Happy where they have been



## II. We Wander When We Rebel

2 All the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron; and 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!



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## II. We Wander When We Rebel

Rebellion is awful, it destroys us, and  
breaks fellowship.

Redirects our vision

Disrupts fellowship

Claims our joy



# III. Even When We Wander there is Redemption

27 "How long *shall I bear* with this evil congregation who are grumbling against Me?

Even in total rebellion, God was/is merciful



# **Three Mistakes of the church which cause us to wander**

- a. Remain fearful instead of faithful**
- b. Focus on the greatness of problem  
than the greatness of God**
- c. We seek the battles instead of the  
blessings**



Wandering or Wondering?

One Answer

God's mercy and redemption in  
Jesus

