The Spies’ Report

When the people of Israel traveled through the wilderness they came to Cades and sent 12 spies on a mission to search the land. Two spies, Joshua and Caleb, came back with a good report. The other 10 reported giants in the land. Read Numbers 13 – 14 for the entire story. When teaching this story to your class, use these two “report cards” as a prop for a skit or a discussion item.

Skit example

1. Before class, hide several pieces of fruit or vegetables in your classroom. Put them under chair or on windowsills where they can easily be found.

2. Assign one student, or a teaching partner, to be a soldier in Canaan who guards his castle. He stands at attention on the other side of the room.

3. Choose a small group (3 or so) of children to be in spy mission number one. Create another spy group with three more children.

4. As Moses, you give the spies their mission. “Group #1, I am sending you to investigate the land of Canaan. God says we may take possession of it if we trust him. Tell us what you find there!” Send group number 1 (good spies) to look for the fruit and bring back a report card of all that they have seen. Give them the spies’ report card but don’t show it to the rest of the class yet. One student carries the report card while the others carry the fruit and veggies.

5. Acting as Moses again, you give the spies their mission. “Group #2, I am sending you to investigate the land of Canaan. God says we may take possession of it if we trust him. Tell us what you find there!” Send group number 2 (bad spies) to the other side of the room where the soldier is waiting for them. Tell the soldier student to stop them, check their identification, give them a rough time, yell at them about trespassing and send them home etc.

6. Next conduct a report card session. Ask team one, “Team leader, what did you find on your mission? What do you recommend the people of Israel do?” They should show the card. You ask them to tell you about the horrible things that might happen to them in the land – swords, castles, giants, fear etc. In a similar manner ask “Team leader number two, what did you find on your mission? What do you recommend that the people of Israel do?” They show the report card to the class and you, pointing to each object, ask them about the grapes, fields, honey etc.

7. Take a vote from the entire class. “Thumbs up for all of you who think we should go into the land. Thumbs down for all of you who think we should go back to Egypt.” Tell them the results of the real story – God was angry at their unbelief and sentences all the adults over 20 years old to death in the wilderness in the next 40 years.
Printing and assembly

There are two options for printing this object lesson.

**Small Posters**

For the quickest and easiest method, simply print the last two pages of this document. The entire layout is done for you.

**Large Poster**

If you want a larger prop for your class or a bulleting board scene, then print the other 18 pages of the document. You will need to purchase two poster boards or foam boards (also called Bristol board in some countries). Look for these in the office supplies or school supplies.

Cut the pieces to fit and arrange them on the board as shown below. Use tape or glue to fix them in place.

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**Bulletin Board**

You can also use the spies report on a bulleting board using tacks, staples or tape.

About this project

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