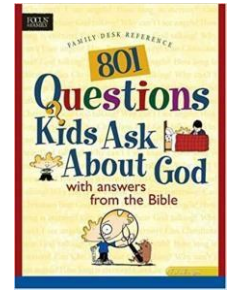


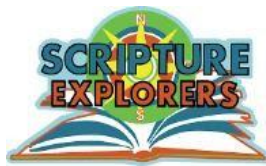


# Why did the Israelites who left Egypt have to wander in the wilderness until they died?



Through Moses, God led the Israelites right to the Promised to Abraham. (This is also the land that Jacob and his sons left when they went to live with Joseph in Egypt.) Moses had sent twelve spies into Canaan to see what the land and the Canaanites were like.

Ten spies reported that the Canaanites were giants that the Israelites should not try to fight. But Joshua and Caleb, who knew God would help them, said, "Let us go at once to take land. We can certainly conquer it!" (Numbers 13:30). Unfortunately, the people listened to the report of the ten and refused to obey God and marched into the land. Those Israelites never saw the Promised Land because they didn't have faith to do what God wanted them to do; they wandered the wilderness for forty year.



[God said to the Israelites] "Because the men who explored the land were there for forty days, you must wander in the wilderness for forty years -- a year for each day, suffering the consequences of your sins. Then you will discover what it is like to have me for an enemy.' I, the Lord, have spoken! I will certainly do these things to every member of the community who has conspired against me. They will be destroyed here in this wilderness, and here they will die!" (Numbers 14:34-35)

**Parent Note:** "Spies in the Promised Land - A Faith Kids Bible Story" is a 2 minute long YouTube video that can help as a visual aid to this week's devotional.

August 9, 2020