

Keys to Fruitfulness

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I. Introduction.

A. The keys to fruitfulness are trusting God and obeying God.

II. What you focus on determines how you see things. (Numbers 13-14)

A. A negative report can have a bad effect on people.

B. God's plan is to break the chains of slavery and bring us into the land of fruitfulness.(Leviticus 26:13)

C. The wilderness was only intended to be an eleven day journey.

III. The result of their disobedience: the people were cast into the wilderness for forty years.(Proverbs 13:13)

A. If we change our mind, we must still stay under the Lord's obedience. Some opportunities for obedience only come once. (Psalm 119:59-60)

B. We disobey because we think God doesn't want what is best for us and because we think we know what is best. (Jeremiah 29:11; Ephesians 1:8)

C. Sometimes God will stick with us until we obey. (Psalm 119:105; Exodus 33:14-15)

IV. What happens when we do trust and obey. (2 Chronicles 20)

A. Jehoshaphat did not know what to do, but he knew where to look.

B. God answers those who trust him .

C. God inhabits the praise of his people. (Psalm 22:4)

V. Application.

A. Focus on God and his promises not on the enemy and the problems.

B. Compare your giants to God and not our own puny strength.

C. Beware of who you listen to and who you follow.

D. When facing a problem:

1. Pray, praise and wait on God.

2. Trust.

3. Obey.

4. Pray and praise.

E. Remember that there is a time element to obedience, which is now.

F. Unless God goes before you, do not go.

G. God has already won the victory.

VI. Conclusion: put your eyes on God, trust him and obey him. (2 Chronicles 20:12; Proverbs 3:5-6; Luke 6:46)

Application questions:

1. What are some ways that you can speak more positively and hopefully?

2. What is the role of praise in trusting and obeying God?

3. When have you seen or chosen irreversible disobedience?
