

Looking Forward in Determination Numbers 13:17-20

Russell Cook
West End Church of Christ
Knoxville, TN

1. Webster defines determination as “the power or habit of deciding definitely and firmly.”
2. Turn with me to **Numbers 13:17**.
3. How many of us have not been tempted to quit in order to pursue a self-gratifying lifestyle?
 - a. Paul would say, “**And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.**” **Galatians 6:9**
4. Let’s examine three reasons we need to serve Christ with determination.
 - I. Determination Will Help Keep Us From Discouragement. Numbers 13**
 - A. We have an example of two spies who saw beyond the majority.
 1. The two spies said, “**Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, ‘We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.’**” **Numbers 13:30**
 - B. Discouragement magnifies the obstacles; determination focuses on the opportunities.
 - II. Determination Will Help Us Focus Our Dreams. Numbers 14**
 - A. Israel experienced forty years of delayed dreams.
 1. “**But the whole assembly talked about stoning them. Then the glory of the LORD appeared at the Tent of Meeting to all the Israelites.**” **Numbers 14:10**
 - B. Determination is linked to our dreams.
 - III. Determination Disregards Deterioration. Joshua 14**
 - A. Notice the ageless ambition of two elderly spies.
 - B. Determination will help us defy time.

Conclusion: So what am I supposed to do about it?

1. First, take your dreams to God.
2. Second, focus on your dreams.
3. Third, put first things first.