**Challenges of Life for the People of God**

Introduction: 1Cor.10:1-11. God’s people have always faced challenges in life- some more than others, and some more severely than others. V.11 indicates exemplary value in the stories of God’s people of the past regarding their challenges. There are definite lessons to be learned from these, but let’s consider one that isn’t listed here, but occurred in Num.13-14.

**1. Remember the Promise(s) of God, 13:2**

Israel did not, but young Joshua & Caleb did, 13:30; 14:24,30;

And Joshua still did 40 years later, Josh.1:1-9.

Heb.13:5-6 extrapolates God’s promise to Joshua to us.

**2. Remember the Worth of the Intended Goal, 13:23-27**

Is heaven really “worth it all” to you- more than anything and everything else here? (#253 in Hymns for Worship)

2Cor.4:16-18 puts it in perspective.

**3. Remember your real strength & never allow yourself to be intimidated, 13:28-29, 31-33**

Rom.8:31-39, God is on your side when you are *in* Him.

**4. Never retreat or turn back from the fight, 14:1-4**

Eph.6:13, the armor covers the front for a reason!

**5. Never align yourself opposite of those *speaking* and *standing* for truth, 14:2,4-10**

Heb.13:7, instead, appreciate and imitate them.

**6. Remember there are always consequences for unbelief, 14:36-37, 27-35**

As there are rewards for obedient belief, Heb.6:9-12.

**7. Never allow lust or stubbornness to cause you to compound one sin with subsequent ones, 14:39-45**

Cain had the same problem- look where it got him, Gen.4:7-8 🡪 1John 1:8-10.