

March 18, 2012
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Monday

[Num. 14:2](#) All the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron; and said to them, "Would that we had died in this wilderness!

I am intrigued by the generation that died in the wilderness, intrigued by their loss and fearful that it could be my own. How about you? You probably should be. Their story was told to us as an example so that we would not fall to their failures. They lived out their lives within traveling distance of the fullness of God's promise, but they never gained it. Why? Well the most glaring reason was their pitiful, complaining, distrusting, and unbelieving attitude. Attitude isn't everything; when it comes to success, it cannot take the place of involvement, good decisions, faith, and knowledge. But a good attitude is necessary and a bad attitude will destroy you.

Tuesday

[Psa. 139:23-24](#) Search me, O God, and know my heart; See if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in the everlasting way.

Perhaps I have seen it in your face; perhaps you have seen it in me. It is easier for someone else to catch the first glimpse of a sour attitude forming in our soul. Sometimes our tone of voice, sometimes the expression on our face, sometimes the words of response reveal the bitter or distasteful attitude. We may not even catch it ourselves and we certainly didn't mean for anyone else to see it in us, but nevertheless it is there, evident. Start the day by giving the Holy Spirit permission to reveal to you attitudes that are hurtful. Cry out like David, "Search me; then lead me!"

Wednesday

[Eph. 4:29](#) Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification, so it will give grace to those who hear.

Are you the last to know? Are you the last to realize? Usually, we just slowly fall into unhealthy attitudes. Like the proverbial frog in boiling water, the temperature turns sour slowly and we don't even realize we are in danger. But in danger we are, to ourselves and others. Certainly this is the lesson of the lost generation and of the 10 men who turned blessed winners into cursed whiners. Now you have a choice, a daily choice to make. Will you have an attitude that matches the Savior's, models faith, and encourages others? Or will you have an attitude of bitterness, negativity, and discouragement? Choose your attitude; live in faith; know God's blessing.

Thursday

[Num. 13:30](#) Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, "We should by all means go up and take possession of it, for we will surely overcome it."

Attitudes are infectious. A smile can be caught. Confidence can be transferred. Positive attitudes held and put forth in the face of daunting circumstances can turn looming failure into overwhelming success. Negative attitudes are transferable as well. Indeed, negative attitudes seem more powerful and pervasive than their positive counterpart. They are easier to catch and easier to pass on. Positive attitudes must be cultivated, intentional, and full of faith. Negative attitudes are natural, empty of faith, and easy to maintain. Resolve to speak with Caleb's voice.

Friday

[Acts 1:8](#) You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses."

Like the conquest of Canaan, **THE PROOF INITIATIVE** will succeed only if the people of God have faith and are obedient in going out and marching forward. It was true for the 12 disciples as God sent them out. It was true for the 70 when God sent them out. Faith is not mere mental ascent to spiritual truths. Faith is following God's call to action with our feet on the ground. Oh, had you asked the wilderness generation if they believed in God, they would have shouted with a resounding "YES!" But their feet responded, "No, we do not believe!" Let your lips and your toes say, "Yes!" March out on **STREET SHOE SUNDAY!**