

Scripture Reading: Luke 6:45b

*Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh.*

I had a blessed childhood and was especially given the gift of optimism because I copied my Christian parents who looked for the good, even in tough situations. Thus, I learned this trait and mostly look for good rather than bad. We recall from Numbers 13 when twelve spies from each tribe of Israel went into the Promised Land that ten of those spies came back to Moses with a bad report about "giants" in the land they had explored. But Caleb had a good report and said, "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it." Joshua agreed. Thus, Joshua and Caleb were the only Israelites from that generation whom the Lord allowed to enter the Promised Land. The Lord will bless us when we honor Him with a good report as well.

*Prayer:* Lord, especially during this Lenten Season, let me have "the tongue of the wise that brings healing. Pro. 12:16b." May everything that I do and say bring glory to Your Name. May my children, their children, and their children, as well as those around me, see that good report and emulate it. In Jesus Name I pray, Amen.

-Submitted by Arlene Hendrix for the Twenty-seventh Reading of Lent.