

Caleb: A Long Faithfulness

Joshua 14,15

- I. Caleb's Faith in his early life (Joshua 14:5-9)
 - A. Caleb's Early Faith and Faithfulness (14:5-8)
 - Caleb had "a different spirit" than the other Israelite spies (Joshua 14:7; Numbers 14:24, 30).
 - ✓ **God honors optimism based on faith.**
 - B. God's promised to give Caleb and his family the land he saw at age 40 (14:9).
 - Caleb "followed the Lord wholeheartedly" (Joshua 14:7-9).
 - ✓ **There is a difference between fully following God and partly following Him (9).**
- II. Caleb's Faith in later life (Joshua 14:10-15:19)
 - A. Caleb's Later Blessings
 - Life: God kept Caleb alive while all the other Israelites died in the wilderness (14:10).
 - Physical Strength (Bonus Blessing): God also blessed Caleb with unusual physical strength for his age (14:11).
 - ✓ **God keeps his promises but also adds special blessings when we are faithful.**
 - Land: Joshua gave Caleb the city of Hebron (14:13).
 - B. Caleb's Later Faith and Faithfulness
 - At age 85 Caleb said, I'll take the land! (14:12).
 - Caleb drove out three Anakites (giants) to take Hebron (14:14; 15:13-14; Deuteronomy 1:28).
 - ✓ **Spiritual maturity means trusting God and taking initiative no matter what age we are.**
 - C. Caleb's Legacy of Faith
 - God gave Caleb a courageous daughter and son-in-law. (Othniel defeated Kiriath – Joshua 15:16-19, and later Aram, giving Israel 40 years of peace Judges 3:9-11).
 - Caleb's descendant 400 years later was a general over 24,000 men for King David (1 Chronicles 27:15).
 - ✓ **Children grow up to remember our faithfulness.**