

Joshua 14

FIRST DAY: Introduction

Are you still waiting to possess a promise God has given to you? Don't despair! Caleb waited over forty years before he was able to take possession of God's promise to him. During those years, Caleb's faith did not waver, his enthusiasm did not fade, and his heart did not harden. As he wholly followed the Lord, his strength was sustained and his faith impassioned his family.

Waiting for the fulfillment of God's promise is not a time to pull back in unbelief, feed doubts, or to despair. Rather, waiting is the time to strengthen our faith in God, prepare to possess God's promise, and wholly follow the Lord. Hebrews 6:12 reminds us to *imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises*. God did indeed fulfill everything He promised to Caleb as He sustained his strength and commended his faith.

*Ask God to give you greater faith and patience
as you wait to possess His promise.*

SECOND DAY: Read Joshua 14:1–5

- Having allocated the inheritance to the two and a half *tribes* on the east side of the Jordan River, it was now time to divide the rest of the Promised Land among the other tribes. From Joshua 14:1, record and remark on those who were to distribute the land with Joshua.

a. How is this a fulfillment of what God commanded seven years earlier? See Numbers 34:16–29.

(1) Note that none of these men died in any of the battles for the Promised Land. How does this speak to you?

b. What method did they use to divide *their inheritance*? Joshua 14:2

(1) Why do you think this was commanded? See Numbers 26:55 and Proverbs 16:33.

2. Use Joshua 14:3–4 to note what Moses had *given* to:

a. The two *tribes and the half-tribe*

(1) Observe that Joseph was divided into two tribes, Manasseh and Ephraim. Joseph, their father, gave them their names based on his testimony; their names mean God has made me forget all my toil and all my father's house, and God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction (Genesis 41:51-51). What bearing do you see these names having on their inheritance in the Promised Land?

b. *The Levites*

(1) From Joshua 13:14, 33, review the particular details of *the inheritance of the Levitical tribe*. Share your insights.

3. Use Joshua 14:5 to remark on the obedience of *the children of Israel*.
4. Use the following Scriptures to comment on how the distribution of the land was a fulfillment of God's promise:
 - a. Genesis 17:8
 - b. Exodus 33:1
 - c. Leviticus 20:24

(1) What does this convey to you about God's promises?

THIRD DAY: Read Joshua 14:6–9

1. At this time, *the children of Judah came to Joshua in Gilgal.* What did Caleb the son of Jephunneh remind Joshua of? Joshua 14:6

2. Caleb and Joshua were two of the original twelve spies *sent* to search out the land of Canaan (Numbers 13). What did Caleb say about this? Joshua 14:7
 - a. Link the source of Caleb's *word* with Luke 6:45 and share your thoughts.
 - (1) What does this suggest to you about Caleb?

 - b. Use Numbers 13:30 and 14:6–9 to note and comment on the *word* Caleb and Joshua had *brought back* to Moses.

3. The inhabitants of Canaan had evoked a mixed response from the spies. Use Joshua 14:8 to contrast the reaction of:
- Caleb's *brethren*
 - Caleb
 - Why do you think Caleb's reaction was *different* than the others? See Numbers 14:24.
4. As a result of Caleb's faith, what did Moses promise him? Joshua 14:9a
5. Use Joshua 14:9b to identify and comment on why Caleb would receive this blessing.
- Use the following Scriptures to underscore this important quality in possessing God's promises:
 - Numbers 14:24
 - Numbers 32:11–12

(3) Deuteronomy 1:36

6. Share what it means to you to *wholly follow the LORD.*

FOURTH DAY: Read Joshua 14:10–12

1. In Joshua 14:10–11, Caleb testified of God’s hand upon his life. Use these verses to note how you see this in Caleb’s:

a. Preservation (verse 10)

b. Strength (verse 11)

(1) Link Caleb’s testimony with Psalm 92:13–15 and share your thoughts.

(2) Share a brief testimony of how you have seen God’s hand:

(a) Preserve you

- (b) Strengthen you
2. Record Caleb's request from Joshua 14:12a.
- a. Use Joshua 14:12b to describe *this mountain*.
- (1) Recall that Caleb was eighty-five years old at this point. Why does this make his request so remarkable?
- b. According to Joshua 14:12c, how would Caleb be able to *drive out the inhabitants*?
- (1) How does this minister to you about:
- (a) Faith
- (b) Mountains/Impediments (see also Matthew 17:20)

(c) God's presence

3. Observe Caleb's boldness as he made his request. Link this with Daniel 11:32b and share your thoughts.

4. How is Caleb an example for you?

FIFTH DAY: Read Joshua 14:13–15

1. In response to Caleb's request, *Give me this mountain*, what did Joshua do? Joshua 14:13

a. Caleb was the first person to receive his *inheritance* on the west side of the Jordan in the Promised Land. Why was this significant?

2. In Joshua 14, observe that for the third time, it was declared that Caleb *wholly followed the LORD*. What does this indicate to you?

3. Remember that the *Anakim* were the giants that intimidated the other spies and kept them from taking possession of the Promised Land. In Joshua 14:15, we read that Arba was the greatest man among the Anakim. How does this make Caleb's conquest even more extraordinary?

a. What giants have intimidated you from taking possession of God's promises?

(1) How are you inspired by Caleb's testimony?

b. Use Judges 1:20 to record Caleb's conquest of Hebron.

4. Hebron was a significant city to Caleb. Discover and record the reason from Genesis 13:18; 23:2, 19.

a. From 2 Samuel 2:1, 11 and 2 Chronicles 11:5, 10 cite how important this city would become to Israel.

5. What do you admire most about Caleb's attitude?

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. Use what you studied this week to comment on Caleb's:

a. Promise

b. Perseverance

c. Patience

d. Passion

e. Preservation

f. Prosperity

2. Share an aspect of Caleb's testimony that inspires you to possess the promises.