

GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN

Life Connecting Teams ~ April 2024
New Covenant Church of Philadelphia

*But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it. **Numbers 14:24 NKJV***
*Now therefore give me this mountain, that the Lord spoke of in that day...**Joshua 14:12 NKJV***

OBJECTIVE: To explore what it means to put our faith into action, to diligently seek God, face challenges with courage, believe in His promise, and trust Him for the outcomes.

INTRODUCTION: Read Numbers 13: 30-33 for background

The story of Joshua and Caleb is found in Numbers 13:1-33 and Numbers 14. **God had promised His people the territory of the promised land.** When the people of Israel were camping out in the wilderness, the Lord told Moses to send some men into the land of Canaan to explore. God had already made a covenant with the people that the land of Canaan would be theirs. He was simply instructing Moses to send spies so they could report back to Moses what the land was like.

The story of the faith and courage of Joshua & Caleb contained in Numbers 13 and 14 is an important reminder of the serious consequences of disobedience and lack of faith. It emphasizes the importance of trust in God's promises, even in difficult circumstances, and the transformative power of intercessory prayer. It also highlights the significance of courageous leadership, as demonstrated by Moses, Aaron, Joshua, and Caleb.

Lesson:

Joshua was a faithful leader who succeeded Moses in leading the Israelites into the Promised Land. He was one of the twelve spies sent to scout Canaan. Unlike the other ten spies, Joshua and Caleb believed that God would help them conquer the land, despite the challenges. Joshua's unwavering faith and courage allowed him to lead the Israelites across the Jordan River and capture Jericho. His name means "**Yahweh is salvation,**" emphasizing his trust in God's promises.

Caleb was one of the 12 sent to spy the land who accompanied Joshua. Like Joshua, Caleb believed that God would give them victory in Canaan. He declared, "Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it" (**Numbers 13:30 NKJV**). Caleb's name means "**faithful**" or "**wholehearted.**" He remained steadfast in his trust in God.

Despite the Israelites' rebellion, Caleb received a special promise from God: "But my servant Caleb, because **he has a different spirit** and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land which he went, and his descendants shall possess it" (**Numbers 14:24**). Caleb's unwavering faith and wholehearted devotion led to this promise. His unique spirit set him apart, and as a result, he and his family were destined to inherit the land. Lord, help us to see our land through the eyes of faith in God's promises!

Discussion: What does it mean to us today to see our land through the eyes of faith? The land symbolizes our spiritual inheritance in Christ. What giants do we see when we look at ourselves? Our communities? Do we see the giants as more powerful than the God who has assigned us to take the land? **Read Mark 6:7 & Isaiah 52: 7.**

Numbers 33:53-54 NKJV: *and you shall take possession of the land and live in it, for I have given the land to you to possess it. You shall inherit the land by lot according to your families; the larger*

you shall give more inheritance, and to the smaller you shall give less inheritance. Wherever the lot falls to anyone, that shall be his.

Believers on a Mission and The Cost of Discipleship

Jesus tells the seventy-two to “*Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves*” (**Luke 10:3 NKJV**). He wants them to learn to trust God, even though He is sending them in harm’s way. Jesus wants them to be dependent upon God for their safety and provision, and so He tells them, “*Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road*” (**Luke 10:4 NKJV**). The seventy-two must not only be aware that they’re going into enemy territory (Satan’s world), but they must trust God with providing for their needs and not be depending upon their own resource.

DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING:

1. **Faith Involves Risk and Could be Costly**- Scripture tells us “*Without faith it is impossible to please God*” (**Hebrews 11:6**). What makes you willing to take the risk of answering the call of faith?
2. **Faith Looks to God** - Joshua and Caleb saw the same people and circumstances the other spies saw. Yet, they had a different response. Why?
3. **Faith not Fear** - Every assignment from God has challenges. However, if that’s where you fix your focus you’ll be overwhelmed with fear. Instead, fix your focus on the almighty power of God.
4. **Faith Often Requires Waiting** – Consider this. After spying on the land and giving a faith-filled report, it took another 40 years until God allowed Joshua and Caleb to enter the promised land. How do you think God uses times of waiting in our lives?
5. **Faith produces Fruit** - Moses’ words to the Spies before they were sent out was, “**Be of good courage**” and bring some of the fruit of the land. What fruit do you want to see produced in the hearts and lives of those in your community?

Please read **Romans 10: 14-15 NKJV** - *How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!”*

Remember in Prayer

- Our founding Pastor Bishop Grannum and his family; Pastor Bob Oliver and Lady Denise Oliver and their family. Our Pastoral staff: Pastor Wangui Mwangi; Pastor Omar Barlow and his wife Jeneen; Pastor Andrew Grannum and his wife Chevas and their families.
- NCC staff and volunteers
- All heads and leaders of ministries at NCC
- The Prayer Station Ministry and all who participate in going out to share the gospel and pray for others. For an increase in NCC members who participate.
- The sick and shut-in; those who have experienced the passing of a loved one.
- Divine Protection of our children and youth.
- Increase in the donations and support for the Capital Campaign.

Reference: <https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/spiritual-life/lessons-we-can-learn-about-faith-from-joshua-and-caleb.html>