

WORD

WHAT

What does the Bible say?

So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the LORD, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly.

Joshua 14:14

In anything we do, having a good start is good but staying strong until the end is just as vital, if not, even more important. When God promised the land of Canaan to the Israelites, every tribe had a portion which they needed to possess completely. However, not everyone succeeded. One of those who stayed strong and completed the mission was Caleb. How did Caleb stay strong and finish strong?

- **Caleb was devoted.**

⁸“... but my brothers who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt with fear. I, however, followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly. ⁹So on that day Moses swore to me, ‘The land on which your feet have walked will be your inheritance and that of your children forever, because you have followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly.’”

Joshua 14:8,9

Even when most of his peers had doubts of continuing the task, Caleb remained devoted and focused on God. Caleb trusted Him wholeheartedly because he knew God was sovereign. This gave him the strength to stay strong. Like Caleb, how can we be strong until the end (Hebrews 12:2,3)?

- **Caleb was confident.**

¹⁰“Now then, just as the LORD promised, he has kept me alive for forty-five years since the time he said this to Moses, while Israel moved about in the desert. So here I am today, eighty-five years old! ¹¹I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I’m just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then.”

Joshua 14:10,11

At eighty-five years old, Caleb still fought and defeated Anakites and took the mountain where they got the huge cluster of the grapes—a beautiful inheritance. Despite the challenges and his circumstance, Caleb triumphed because he knew that God was able to fulfill what He promised. Why can we put our confidence in God?

- **Caleb was courageous.**

¹²“Now give me this hill country that the LORD promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites were there and their cities were large and fortified, but, the LORD helping me, I will drive them out just as he said.”¹³Then Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave him Hebron as his inheritance.

Joshua 14:12,13

Caleb knew that the Anakites were big and powerful and that many were afraid of them. However, he still faced them courageously. This kind of courage is not the absence of fear but having the ability to look to God and face the fear. What gave Caleb the courage to face the Anakites? Knowing that God is our help, how does this encourage us?

SO WHAT

What is the relevance of the Word to my life?

- What doubts do you have that cloud how you perceive God and His ability? What choices do you need to make to erase these doubts?
- How confident are you that God’s promises to you will come to pass? What promises are you holding on to that make you strong in spite of opposition?
- How does the truth that God will help us boost your faith?

NOW WHAT

How do I apply the Word to my life?

- What steps can you make to grow your faith in God? How do you think can you include these in your plans next week?
- What practical steps can you take this week to help you know and take to heart some of the promises God has for you?
- What are some challenges you are facing where you need God’s help? Pray for these within your group.