

## **NEW GROUND**

### *LIFE GROUP LEADER GUIDE*

Sermon Date: Sunday, February 15, 2026

Sermon Passage: Joshua 14

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### **This Week's Main Takeaway**

Joshua 14 thunders with courage and wholehearted “followship.” An 85-year-old man stands before Joshua and says, “Now give me this hill country” (Joshua 14:12). It was not a rocking chair or a memory plaque. It was a mountain occupied by giants.

Caleb is not reminiscing about what God did. He is requesting what God promised. And in his request, we find a faith that endures and service that finishes strong.

### **This Week's Memory Verse**

*Joshua 14:8 (NIV)*, “But my fellow Israelites who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt in fear. I, however, followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly.”

### **Five Inductive Questions**

#### **1. GOD :: What does this passage imply about *God*?**

God—our promise-maker and promise-keeper.

In Joshua 14, we are reminded that God is a promise-maker and a promise-keeper. Caleb reminds Joshua that God had promised to give His people land 45 years earlier (vs. 6-9). In verses 12-15, we see the fulfillment of this promise. The Lord kept His promise and gave His people a land as an inheritance. Furthermore, within this, we see that God is faithful to His word and sustains His people (In this passage, Caleb) (vs. 10-11). We also see the reminder that everything belongs to the Lord—the people, the land, and the promise—all of this is held in the hands of the Father (vs. 1-4).

#### **2. MAN :: What does this passage imply about *man*?**

Long obedience in the same direction.

In Caleb, this passage gives us a picture of what it means to follow the Lord wholeheartedly. Notice in verse eight, the full devotion to the Lord was despite others “losing heart” in the journey. This does not mean we follow Jesus perfectly, without mistakes, but we strive to make God the goal and

the prize. Again, God sustains us in this faith journey (v. 11). But what should our ambition be as believers? Long obedience in the same direction. In Christ, we can accomplish this. We can have a lasting faith that excels despite age, trials, and shortcomings. This passage is a great way to highlight to the next generation what it means to pursue our faithful God at all costs. This often will include waiting and perseverance on our part. Imagine all Caleb saw in 45 years, and yet he kept going.

### **3. PROMISE :: Is there a *promise* to claim in this passage?**

Waiting does not mean God is absent.

Many promises exist in this passage. One of the main things we can glean from this passage is that God keeps His Word to His people. But beyond this, there is the reminder that just because we are called to wait and trust in God's perfect timing, it does not mean God is absent or has forgotten us (v. 13). He will do what He says—every time. God never abandoned His people, and the same is true for us today.

### **4. COMMAND :: Is there a *command* to obey in this passage?**

In this passage, Caleb is not reminiscing about what God did. He is requesting what God promised (v. 12). In his request, we find a faith that endures and a service that finishes strong. Joshua 14 thunders with courage and wholehearted "followship." Can we say the same about our lives?

### **5. REPENT :: Reflecting on this portion of God's Word, what can I *repent* of this week?**

*What does your devotion to Christ look like?*

The question is not first, "What mountain will you climb?" It is this: Have you trusted the One who climbed Calvary for you? Faith begins at the cross, and faithful following flows from it.

Sources:

*CSB Study Bible Notes (B&H Publishing)*