

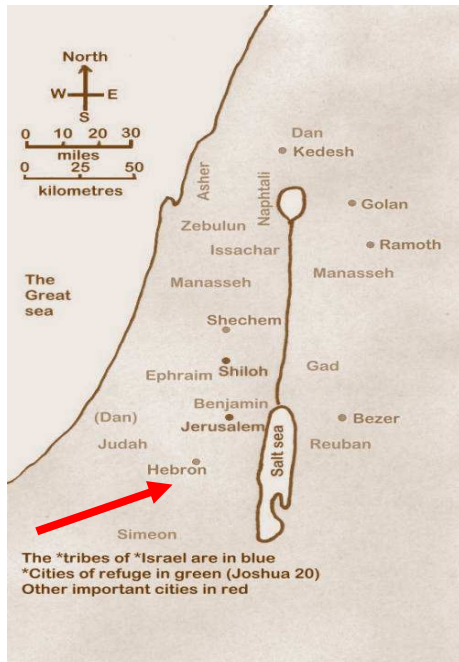
But how?

Read Galatians 6:7-10.

Comment: The Apostle Paul instructs us “not to become weary in doing good” in verse 9. The Greek word for “weary” does not refer to physical fatigue or burnout. It means to be fainthearted, to lose heart, and/or to lack courage. The Apostle addresses how this happens in a believers life.

Question: What in the context of verses 6-10 explains how a believer would grow weary in doing good?

Facilitator’s Note: The answer is found in verses 7 and 8. If we sow to the flesh (NIV “sinful nature”) we will reap weariness and discouragement because we simply cannot maintain the façade of spiritual vitality when spiritual vitality is not in play. However, if we sow in the Spirit we will reap the benefits of spiritual life—and never experience weariness and discouragement in the spiritual sense.



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# BE COURAGEOUS

Courageous Faith Never Grows Old  
Joshua 14:1-15



## ONE

In recalling his history with God, Moses, and his nation, Israel, Caleb recited these words:

*“So 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.’”*

To see this in its historical setting let’s turn to Numbers 13 and 14.



Facilitator’s Note: Be sure to review these chapters ahead of time since there is more than you will be able to cover in your group time. Describe the

situation. Read Numbers 13:26-30 (the ten weak spies vs. Caleb's courageous faith) and Numbers 14:24 (the Lord describing Caleb's wholehearted obedience).

Comment: Besides being obedient to the Lord's instructions to take the land, Caleb was demonstrating obedience to something far greater. To see this we have to do a little investigative work. In this study we'll come to understand God's greater purpose in calling Israel as his chosen nation.

We begin with the call of Abram in Genesis 12:1-3. Read the text.

Question: What was God's plan?

**Facilitator:** To bless all the nations via Israel.

Next, we move to the call of Moses in Exodus 3:11-16. Read the text.

Comment: Notice the connection between Moses and Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The covenant continues.

Next we turn to the call of Israel in Exodus 19:4-6. Read the text.

Question: God called the Israelites to be a "kingdom of priests and a holy nation." What does a priest do?

**Facilitator's Note:** A priest represents God to the people and the people to God.

Continuing with the call of Israel turn to Psalm 67. Read the text.

Question: Again, what does verse two teach us?

Finally, let's look at Isaiah 62:5-7. Note especially verses six and seven.

Question: Once again, what are we learning?

Summary Question: In this very brief survey, what grand purpose do we see God bestowing upon Israel?

**Facilitator's Note:** The purpose of God for Israel was that they live a life of faith and obedience in response to the love and grace of God so that all the world could witness the glory and love of God.

Application:

1. If you want your faith to remain bold and not old **obedience** to the plans and purposes of God must never be considered optional. vs. 1-9

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Looking briefly at Joshua 14:6-9 (esp. vs. 9) we learn that Caleb's obedience was a "wholehearted" obedience.

Question: In light of what we have learned do you think Caleb was merely a warrior looking for a fight and some free property? If not, how would you summarize Caleb's courageous faith? What were his intentions and aspirations?

2. Read Matthew 28:16-20. Should we want our faith to be considered courageous and our obedience to be considered wholehearted, what should we be doing?

Is this commission intended for a special group of Christians?

How can you personally fulfill this grand purpose of God?

Are you growing weary at the mention of this recurring theme? If so, why do you think you are feeling this way? If not, what is keeping you in the fight?

## TWO

Let's now look at the second portion of Joshua 14.

Read verses 10-15

Question: What stands out to you in this passage? Why?

**Facilitator's Note:** Here is a moment to simply allow your group to reflect on what they see as exciting or meaningful?

Comment: Notice verse 12. Caleb was eager to take on the mighty Anakites of Kiriath Arba—later to be known as Hebron.

Question: Why?

**Facilitator's Note:** We can surmise generally that he was a man who wanted to be faithful to the Lord. However, contextually and specifically, he was a man who knew where his strength was to be found. This is how Calab put it:

*"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."*

Application:

If you want your faith to remain bold and not old get in the fight and stay in the fight.