

**FINISHING STRONG.**  
**Sunday, January 5th, 2020**  
**Pastor Audie Clairmont**

**Joshua 14:6-15-TLB**

6 A delegation from the tribe of Judah, led by Caleb, came to Joshua in Gilgal. **“Remember what the Lord said to Moses about you and me when we were at Kadesh-barnea?”** Caleb asked Joshua.

7 “I was forty years old at the time, and Moses had sent us from Kadesh-barnea to spy out the land of Canaan. I reported what I felt was the truth,

8 but our brothers who went with us frightened the people and discouraged them from entering the Promised Land. **But since I had followed the Lord my God,**

**9 Moses told me, ‘The section of Canaan you were just in shall belong to you and your descendants forever.’**

**10 “Now, as you see, from that time until now the Lord has kept me alive and well for all these forty-five years since crisscrossing the wilderness, and today I am eighty-five years old.**

**11 I am as strong now as I was when Moses sent us on that journey, and I can still travel and fight as well as I could then!**

12 So I’m asking that you give me the hill country that the Lord promised me. You will remember that as spies we found the Anakim living there in great, walled cities, but if the Lord is with me, I shall drive them out of the land.”

13-14 So Joshua blessed him and gave him Hebron as a permanent inheritance because he had followed the Lord God of Israel.

**1. WE SERVE A GOD WHO CAN FORGIVE US AND USE OUR MISTAKES, IN ORDER TO FINISH STRONG!**

**Philippians 3:13-14-TLB**

12 I admit that I haven’t yet acquired the absolute fullness that I’m pursuing, but I run with passion into his abundance **so that I may reach the destiny** that Jesus Christ has called me to fulfill and wants me to discover.

13 I don’t depend on my own strength to accomplish this; however I do have one compelling **focus: I forget all of the past as I fasten my heart to the future instead.**

**Philippians 3:8-9-Passion Translation**

8 **To truly know him meant letting go of everything from my past and throwing all my boasting and all that I thought made me better than others on the garbage heap.** It’s all like a pile of manure to me now, so that I may be enriched in the reality of knowing Jesus Christ and embrace him as Lord in all of his greatness. **9My passion is to be consumed with him and not cling to my own “righteousness” based in keeping the written Law.** My “righteousness” will be his, based on the faith of Jesus Christ— the very righteousness of God.

**Verse 8 - ...but our brothers who went with us frightened the people and discouraged them from entering the Promised Land.**

**Numbers 14:24-NLT**

24 **But My servant Caleb has a different attitude than the others have.** He has **remained loyal to Me,** so I will bring him into the land he explored. His descendants will possess their full share of that land.

**We need to have the same attitude Caleb had.**

**Numbers 13:30-NLT**

30 But **Caleb tried to quiet the people** as they stood before Moses. **“Let’s go at once to take the land,” he said. “We can certainly conquer it!”**

**2. DELAYMENT DOESN’T MEAN ABANDONMENT OF GODS PROMISE TO US.**

**Hebrews 10:35-36-NLT**

35 So **do not throw away this confident trust in the Lord.** Remember **the great reward it brings you!**

36 **Patient endurance is what you need now,** so that you will continue to do God’s will. Then you will receive all that He has promised.

**Galatians 6:9-ESV**

9 And let us not **grow weary** of doing good, for in **due season we will reap, if we do not give up.**

**Verse 7-But since I had followed the Lord my God...**

**Verse 10 - ... “Now, as you see, from that time until now the Lord has kept me *alive and well for all these forty-five years...***

**Verse 11 - ... *I am as strong now as I was when Moses sent us on that journey, and I can still travel and fight as well as I could then!***

**Verse 12 –14**

**...but if the Lord is with me, I shall drive them out of the land.”**

**... So I’m asking that you give me *the hill country* that the Lord promised me...**

**.... So *Joshua blessed him and gave him Hebron* as a permanent inheritance because he had followed the Lord God of Israel.**

**Hebron – means- “association”- People organized for a joint purpose; uniting in a common purpose. “Place of Fellowship with God.”**