

NOT DONE YET

Joshua 14:6-15

At 85 years old, the faithful Caleb desired to keep growing and being used by the Lord. In this passage, he takes hold of God's promises, and his story of God's faithfulness unfolds. By examining his courageous life, we learn that as time goes on, we must not slow down in doing the Lord's work; we must boldly look ahead and realize we are not done yet!

INTRODUCTION



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All along the way, people and inventors
have said, "Not done yet"

CALEB

Caleb was eighty-five years old, but he wanted
to continue to grow

Joshua 14

Joshua 14

He looked back carefully at what God had brought him through

He looked around candidly at where God had brought Him to

He looked ahead courageously at what God might want to do through his life now

Look Back carefully (vv. 6-8)

Joshua 14

The name *Caleb* means bold or impetuous; also the Hebrew word for dog

Memory is a powerful incentive and inspiration if you use it correctly and focus on the right things

Caleb remembered back to when he was one of the twelve spies who went into the land and brought back a report; (Numbers 13-14)

Good land, big dudes

Minority report by Joshua and Caleb (Numbers 13:30)

Majority report by ten spies (Numbers 13:31-32)

The ten measured the giants by

their own strength;

the two measured the giants by God's strength

The 12 Spies Report

The ten saw big people and a little God; the two saw little people because they believed they served a big God

Caleb had a story to tell of God's faithfulness in the past—of what God had brought him through

We have a story of God's faithfulness in this fellowship, too

New Hope's Story

Sharon Shorb shares a favorite story or two
Of hers



New Hope's Story

Like Caleb, we had a promise; Matthew 16:18

Look Around candidly (vv. 9-11)

Caleb's honest assessment of his age combined
with a confident assessment of his God

The older you get, if you live life right, the more
valuable you are

New Hope's Story

You shouldn't be thinking of retirement as much as thinking about how God can make the latter years of your life the most productive years of your life

Example: Billy Graham

The secret is Caleb's spirituality

Henry David Thoreau

"None are so old as those who have outlived
enthusiasm"

Look Ahead courageously (vv. 11-12)

Caleb didn't sound like he was looking for
comfort; he was looking for a fight

Caleb was ready then, and he was ready now

That's courage

Three characteristics about Caleb's life to consider

1. He looked back to the past, but he wasn't stuck in the past

If you want to be miserable, live your whole life looking over your shoulder

Philippians 3:13

Three characteristics about Caleb's life to consider

2. He viewed himself through the lens of faith
He knew he was old, but God had made him a
promise

2 Timothy 4:7

Three characteristics about Caleb's life to consider

3. He lived with a reckless abandonment to the will of God

"It may be" (v. 12) implies it may not be
He wanted a challenge, a new horizon

Three characteristics about Caleb's life to
consider

John Haggai

"Attempt something so great for God, it's
doomed to failure unless God be in it"

It's God's style to use situations where the odds
are stacked against His people

Three characteristics about Caleb's life to
consider

Moses, Gideon, David, newly converted
believers

Mark 16:15

At any age, if you want the Lord to use you, it'll
be the best ride you've ever had