



Courage to Finish Strong
(Joshua 14:6-15)

Main Idea: To finish well, we need a long record of faithfulness to God.

Connect: Have you ever trained for an athletic event?

Discuss

1. What insight, observation, or principal from this sermon did you find to be most helpful, insightful or troubling? Explain ...
2. Caleb approaches Joshua, reminding him of the promises that had been made regarding his inheritance in the Promised Land (v6-8).
 - There were only two people who had lived through all the amazing miracles God had performed since delivering the Israelites from Egyptian slavery: Joshua and Caleb. Caleb had lived his life in obedience to God, and was now returning to claim the promises God had made concerning him. He had **waited** 45 years to claim this promise. What prayer in your life would you consider a long-term prayer?
 - In our modern culture we are conditioned to expect instant results. How do you think Caleb found the strength to wait for so long without doubting God's promise?
 - How can you let this story encourage you during a season of waiting?
3. Caleb repeats the promised the Lord made to Moses regarding the land in Canaan that he was to receive as a reward for following the Lord "wholly" (v9-11).
 - The text makes it clear that Caleb is rewarded for completely, wholly, wholeheartedly following the Lord. Is there anything preventing you from making a full and complete commitment to God? Or have you overcome something during your walk with God that has led you into a deeper relationship with Him?
 - Caleb carried this promise for 45 years, as his people perished and his nation went to war. The *Bible* is full of promises God has made to individuals, and full of promises that He makes to us. Is there a particular promise of God's that you hold close, something that you are really counting on Him to fulfill?
4. Caleb receives his portion of land (v. 12-15).
 - Caleb knows that "his" land is full of giants, but he also knows the Lord's strength and power. His response reveals his mindset that, "Yes, the Lord is with me!" and "Yes, the Lord is able!" and "Yes, the Lord will fulfill his word!" How do you live out faith in your life?
 - An athlete doesn't run a marathon without training. What can you do today to ensure, spiritually, that you are where you need to be tomorrow? In five years? In 20? How can you run your race with faith, endurance and courage?

Live it Out

- Caleb was not afraid to ask for what God had promised him. Claim one of God's promises for yourself. Write it out, pray it back, meditate on it and listen to God.
- Make a list of promises from the *Bible* that you can apply to different areas of your life. Keep it handy and read it often.