

The Caleb Spirit

Hebrews 11 has been called faith's hall of fame. It recounts men and women who pleased God through their faith in some of life's most difficult situations. Though Caleb is not listed in Hebrews 11, he IS a Hebrews 11 kind of man. He stood out in his day as a man of faith. He had a different spirit than most of the men around him. The Caleb spirit is a spirit that models what a life of faith might look like for us in our day.

Opening Discussion: What is something that is challenging your faith these days?

Read Numbers 13:1-2; 13:17-14:12; 14:19-38

1. Caleb was one of 12 men selected by Moses to spy out the land. What were the specifics of what Moses asked them to do (13:17-20)?
2. How would you describe the nature of the report that the majority of the spies gave once they returned? Why were they fearful (13:25-33)?
3. Caleb saw all the same things that the other spies did, but his report was different. Why did he respond differently to the same set of facts (13:1-2; 14:7-9)?
4. What does God say about Caleb (14:22-24)?

Read Joshua 14:6-14

5. After the 40 years in the wilderness, God brings the children of Israel, including Caleb, into the Promised Land. What is revealed about Caleb at this point in his life?
6. What fresh expression of faith is revealed in Caleb's request to Joshua?

7. The ten spies wanted to play it safe. In what ways are you tempted to “play it safe” in life at times rather than living by faith?

8. Caleb had a different spirit than the ten spies. It seems that a big part of this different spirit was his belief in the promises of God. How might knowing God’s promises help you in your faith situation(s)? Are there specific promises that would be helpful for you to cling to right now?

9. What might God be asking you to trust Him for these days? Is there a step of faith He wants you to take?