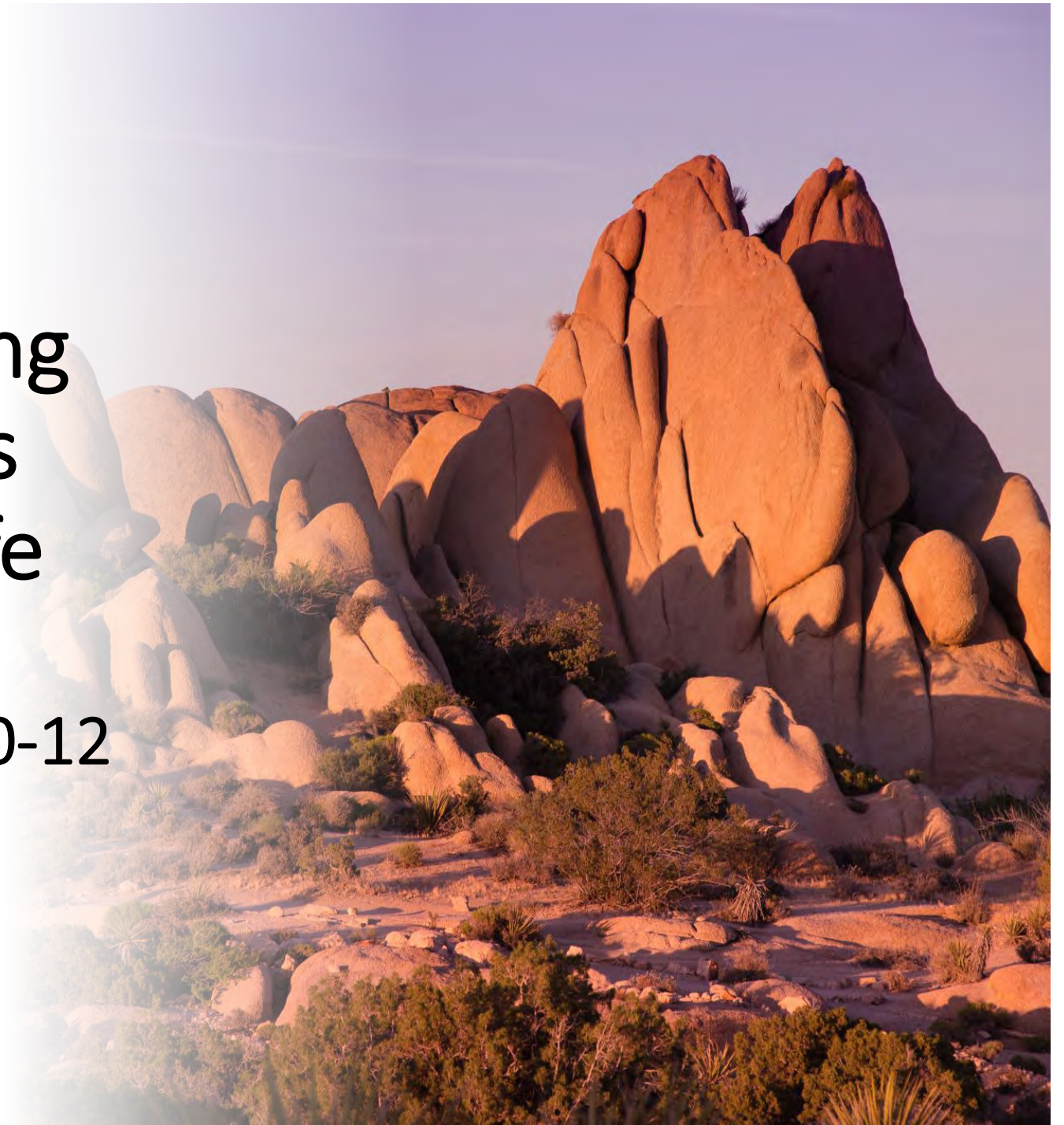


Conquering the Giants in Your Life

Joshua 14:10-12



Background for the Lesson

- Before the Israelites crossed over into the land promised to them by God, Numbers 13 says that Moses sent 12 spies into Canaan—because it was already inhabited—to explore its conquest possibilities (our Christian life is a battle, Eph.6:10)
- Ten of the twelve came back to Moses with a frightening report: *“And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants; and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so were we in their sight!”* Numbers 13:33
- Only two men, Joshua and Caleb, came to Moses with a positive forecast of conquering Canaan: Numbers 14:8-10,
“If the Lord is pleased with us, He will lead us into the Land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the Land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them.”

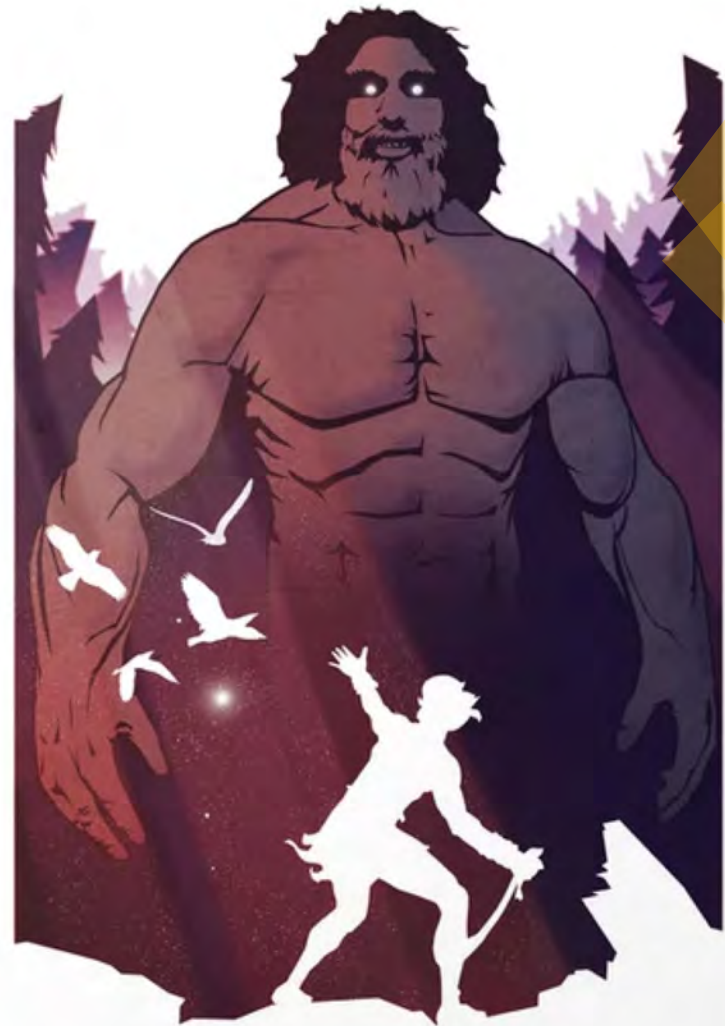
- Now in Joshua 14:7, Caleb tells Joshua that he was 40 years old when he first went with the other spies to spy out the Land of Canaan and came back with good news based on his convictions; and now at this point, he is 85 years of age!
- Ten of the 12 spies came back with a “we-can’t” attitude!
- So, God punished the Israelites for lack of confidence in Him:
“Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hands to make your home, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun. Numbers 14:30
- POINT: When you lose confidence in God, He loses confidence in you! James 4:17; Don’t rebel like the Israelites
- POINT: We may not possess God’s provisions for us because we don’t believe He can provide them!
- Remember Peter when Jesus asked, *“Will you also leave?”* John 6:67 Peter then asked Jesus a question, *“Lord to whom shall we go?”*

So Caleb Now At Eighty Five Says:

“Now then, just as the Lord promised, he has kept me alive for forty-five years since the time he said this to Moses, while Israel moved about in the wilderness. So here I am today, eighty-five years old! I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I’m just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then. Now give me this hill country that the Lord promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites (giants) were there and their cities were large and fortified, but the Lord helping me, I will drive them out just as He said.” Joshua 14:10-12

Do We Have Giants in Our Lives Like Caleb Had in His?

- The Surgeon's Knife
- Job Losses
- Covid 19
- People Hurt and Disappoint Us
- Health Fails
- Bills Aren't Paid
- The Doctor Says It's Cancer
- Suffering From a Bad Decision
- Major Depression/Isolation



Understanding How Caleb Conquered His Giants Can Help Us Conquer Ours!

#1 Caleb Had Confidence In God's Presence

- *"If so be the Lord will be with me, then I will be able to drive them out, as the Lord said."* Joshua 14:12
- Caleb knew that if God was with HIM (not the Israelites in general, but HIM) HE could defeat any giant or any enemy
- You and I can overcome any obstacle and defeat any enemy if you and I are certain that God is with us
- Caleb depended on God's promise of His presence in His life
- Don't we depend on God's promise of His presence?

"... And lo (surely) I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20, Psalms 139:7-10

For God's Presence to be Consistently In Your Life, You Can't Straddle the Fence!

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened that He cannot save; Neither His ear heavy, that He cannot hear; But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, And your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear." Isaiah 59:1-2

"He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." Matthew 12:30

"Trying to love two ain't easy to do!"

Matthew 6:24, "No man can serve two masters ..."



#2 Caleb Had Courage That Was Founded On Faith

- Caleb's courage was based on a history of God's track record with him. Caleb was able to relive the brave moments of his past experiences with God; and that helped his faith to move him forward (the 10 plagues in Egypt and the "Red Sea phenomenon")
- The Lord's faithfulness in your past experiences should help your confidence with the giants you face now
- When Caleb was 40 years old, God had made a promise to him
"Not one of you will enter the land I swore to you with uplifted hand to make your home, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua."
Numbers 14:30
- Caleb remembered God's promise, put his hope in it, and thus allowed it to be the fuel that ignited his faith in his old age
- Our Hope is what strengthens our faith and is founded on the promises of God (standing on promises or sitting on premises)

Thank God He Is True to His Promises!

“Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath. That by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.

Which hope we have as an anchor to the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil”

Hebrews 6:18-20

- **Our hope is steadfastly attached to Jesus Christ, our high priest, who is in the “holiest of holies” addressing God on our behalf, Hebrews 4:15**
- **With our disappointments, persecutions, temptations, and failures in this life, it’s wonderful to have Jesus as the legal, and holy counsel for our defense!**

#3 Caleb Had a Conquering Spirit

- Caleb had the “Mindset of a Conqueror!”

“Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the Lord spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced; if so the Lord be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out as the Lord said.”

- Listen to what the God says about Caleb when he refused to let a generation of Israelites go into the promised land because of their fear and negative report. Numbers 14:24

“But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to and his descendants will inherit it.”

- That’s why second opinions in medicine can make a difference (different attitude when looking at the same issue)

***“It Was Caleb’s Attitude
And Not His Aptitude
That Determined His
Altitude!”***



The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38

