

## **JOSHUA: GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN DEVOTION AND DISCUSSION GUIDE**

### **Joshua 13:1-2 ESV**

Now Joshua was old and advanced in years, and the Lord said to him, “You are old and advanced in years, and there remains yet very much land to possess.<sup>2</sup> This is the land that yet remains: all the regions of the Philistines, and all those of the Geshurites.

### **Opening Discussion:**

- It is time to take possession of the land God has *already* given you.
- What mountain lies before you? What promises have you received from God that you can exercise your faith in as you step out to possess your land?

**Key thought:** Sometimes there are things we come across or go through that are hard for us to understand...in those times remember who God is.

### **Exodus 34:6-7**

The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,<sup>7</sup> keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.”

#### 1) God is ABSOLUTELY God!

- Verse 6—God introduces Himself as “Yahweh, Yahweh! Elohim.” God’s thoughts and His ways are far beyond anything we could think or imagine (Isaiah 55:8-9).
- What is a circumstance in your life right now that you do not understand? Ask yourself, does God have a right? Do you trust Him? Can you fix your faith on His faithfulness? (Psalm 145:17).

#### 2) God is ABSOLUTELY Holy!

- Verse 7—God states that although His nature is steadfast love and forgiveness, He will by no means clear the guilty. How do you reconcile these two seemingly opposing actions regarding sin?
- It’s not the magnitude of the sin, it is the magnitude of the one being sinned against.
- How did Pastor Daniel’s illustration of Pastor Chris, the law enforcement officer, and the picture of the President of the U.S. relate to the holiness of God?

#### 3) God is ABSOLUTELY Good!

- Verse 6b—What description does God give of Himself? Have you encountered this part of His nature and character? How has this transformed your life? How does this strengthen your faith?
- God waited 400 years before He judged the sins of the Canaanites (Genesis 15:12-16).

- According to 2 Peter 3:8-9, how patient has God been toward us? Have you personally experienced His patience as He waited on you to come to repentance for a particular sin?

### **Numbers 14:24 NIV**

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.

What would Caleb teach us today? Four NEVERS he would share with us:

- 1) It's never too late to go all in.
  - Caleb had a different spirit.
  - Caleb had wholehearted devotion.
  - Are you struggling with the fear that you missed your season to take your mountain? That it's too late? How does the story of Caleb help you resist the temptation to believe that it is too late to see your promises come to pass?
- 2) It's never too late for God to fulfill a promise (Joshua 14:10).
  - Caleb waited for 45 years. How long are you willing to wait?
  - How can persevere in faith as those that have gone before us (Hebrews 11)?
  - We see it by faith before we seize it by faith. What does this look like in action in our daily lives?
  - Don't waste time looking back, or you will lose faith, but realize the fight of faith is for a better future.
- 3) It's never too late to do something new (Joshua 14:11-12).
  - Israel wandered for 40 years because of a negative mindset. Caleb wandered for 40 years because of a positive mindset (Proverbs 4:23).
  - Are you a wanderer, or a wonderer?
  - Your greatest act of faith is still ahead of you. As long as there is breath, there is hope, and hope is the substance of faith.
- 4) It's never too late to leave a lasting legacy (Joshua 14:14).
  - Caleb's 40 years of waiting was the foundation for 4,000 years of legacy.
  - Back to the original question: What mountain lies before you? What promises have you received from God that you can exercise your faith in as you step out to possess your mountain?
  - How can possessing your mountain leave a legacy that will influence future generations?

### **Application:**

- Instead of defaulting to doubt when you don't understand, fix your faith on God's faithfulness.
- Go ALL IN with God.
- Decide to take full possession of your promise.
- Allow God to do something radically new.
- Leave a legacy that changes future generations.