

Discussion Starter: Reflecting back over the last year, what has changed in your life since last Thanksgiving that you are most thankful for during this Thanksgiving holiday season?

Prayer (While it is okay to pray for requests and concerns as usual also, make thankfulness the theme of your prayer today. Give every group member a chance to pray out loud to express his/her gratitude for something specific that God has done or provided.)

Discussion Questions:

What do you know about Caleb? Read **Numbers 13:1-3,27-30** and **14:6-11,28-39** to help fill in the gaps (You can also use the opening section this article for a quick summary: [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caleb](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caleb) – note that some of the middle paragraphs will probably not be helpful or relevant).

Especially in the verses from chapter 14 we just read, it is evident that Caleb (along with Joshua) faced opposition and persecution from God's people for obeying God faithfully. What are some situations today when modern Christians may be called to live or speak in such a way that other members of the church may take offense (ie, sex only for marriage; warn against putting too much hope in American government or political party; warn against danger of lust/pornography; calling abortion murder of innocent children; etc.)?

Read **Joshua 14:10-15**. How many years passed between God's promise to Caleb and God's fulfillment of His word (45 years)? As Pastor Kevin is writing these questions at age 28, I can barely remember off the top of my head a single prayer that I prayed even 10 years ago. What problem could our forgetfulness create for seeing God's faithfulness and trustworthiness (we don't even realize that God is answering prayers and keeping promises because we forget the issues completely by the time He does)? What concrete step(s) can I implement in order to combat my forgetfulness this week (ie, prayer journal, keep a running log of promises in Scripture as you read them, etc.)?

Pastor Ramel stated that "the size of the promise determines the size of the obstacle." What does that statement mean? How does it apply to the life of Caleb? How does it apply to our salvation (our sin was such a huge obstacle that Jesus had to die on the cross in our place)? Can you think of another situation where you can see this principle at work?

Pastor Ramel emphasized that a spirit of fear sees obstacles while a spirit of faith sees opportunities. Describe some real-life situations where the two differing perspectives would make a huge difference on the way you handle/perceive a potentially difficult situation (losing your job, having a close friend die or move away, etc.).

Take some time before you leave to discuss a Christmas get-together for your group, as your regularly scheduled meetings will likely be interrupted because of busy holiday schedules!