

I. Review

A. The command to “Take Possession”

Deuteronomy 1:8 (NKJV) – *See, I have set the land before you; go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—to give to them and their descendants after them.’*

B. Possession Defined – *To seize – to dispossess – To take possession of*

C. Previous Sessions

1. Understanding the Need to Possess

2. Dealing with Opposition

3. Dealing with Personal Giants

4. Remember His Covenant

5. Wholeness

Different levels of receiving.

Wholeness requires whole heartedness.

II. Wholly Following God

A. The Example of Caleb

Joshua 14:6-14 (NKJV) – ⁶*Then the children of Judah came to Joshua in Gilgal. And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him: “You know the word which the LORD said to Moses the man of God concerning you and me in Kadesh Barnea. ⁷I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land, and I brought back word to him as it was in my heart. ⁸Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, **but I wholly followed the LORD my God.** ⁹So Moses swore on that day, saying, ‘Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be your inheritance*

*and your children's forever, **because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.*** ¹⁰And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. ¹¹As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in. ¹²Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said." ¹³And Joshua blessed him, and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. ¹⁴Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, **because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel**

1. Three references to the fact that Caleb WHOLLY followed the Lord.
2. **Wholly** – to fill – or to be full – fullness – abundance – to accomplish to the end. Completely – entirely – thoroughly – in every respect

3. Other Versions

NIV – *he followed the Lord, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly*

AMP – He followed the Lord, the God of Israel completely

ISV – He fully followed the Lord

4. **How you follow makes a difference in what you receive.**
 - a. Wholly following produces wholeness in our lives.
 - b. Following at a distance – or only as it is convenient limits our ability to receive.

5. The cost of following Jesus

Luke 9:57-62 (NLT) – ⁵⁷As they were walking along, someone said to Jesus, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸But Jesus replied, "Foxes

have dens to live in, and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place even to lay his head.”⁵⁹He said to another person, “Come, follow me.” The man agreed, but he said, “Lord, first let me return home and bury my father.”⁶⁰But Jesus told him, “Let the spiritually dead bury their own dead! Your duty is to go and preach about the Kingdom of God.”⁶¹Another said, “Yes, Lord, I will follow you, but first let me say good-bye to my family.”⁶²But Jesus told him, “Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God.”

Note: Jesus wanted them to understand that to truly follow him – they would have to put him entirely first! *How you follow makes a difference!*

B. How did Caleb WHOLLY follow the Lord?

1. He had God’s Word in his heart.

- a. **Joshua 14:7 (NKJV)** – *I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to spy out the land, and I brought back word to him as it was in my heart.*
- b. **God’s promises were in abundance in his heart.**
- c. **Matthew 12:34b (NKJV)** – *for out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks*
- d. **Caleb had the Word of God abundantly in his heart – and it came out of this mouth.**
- e. **His heart was wholly following.**
- f. **His mouth was wholly following.**

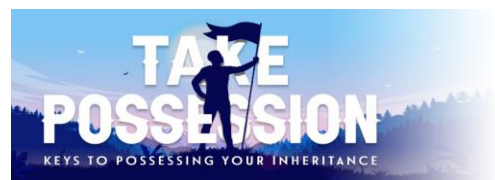
2. He followed God despite the majority who didn’t.

- a. **Joshua 14:8 (NKJV)** – *Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, **but I wholly followed the LORD my God***
- b. **Faith must be willing to go against the majority. 10 out of 12 – were not following God in their heart or in their mouth.**
- c. **To wholly follow means, I follow God regardless of if anyone else does or not.**

3. Caleb continued to WHOLLY follow God for forty years before he saw the manifestation of his promise.
 - a. For 45 years he watched every person in his generation die – (Other than Joshua).
 - b. For 45 years he had to wander in the wilderness with those who had been cursed because of unbelief.
 - c. He didn't allow what he heard or saw to distract his faith. He continued to WHOLLY follow the Lord in faith until his day came 45 years later.
 - d. Joshua 14:10-12 (NKJV) – ¹⁰*And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old. ¹¹As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in. ¹²Now therefore, give me this mountain of which the LORD spoke in that day; for you heard in that day how the Anakim were there, and that the cities were great and fortified. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall be able to drive them out as the LORD said.*
 - e. **Forty--five years is a long time to stay in faith.**
Think back to where you were 45 years ago.
 - f. **Caleb continued to wholly follow God until he received his promise.**
Joshua 14:13-14 (NKJV) – ¹³*And Joshua blessed him, and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance. ¹⁴Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, **because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel***

C. How do I wholly follow the Lord?

1. Keep His covenant promises alive in your heart.
2. Keep releasing the Word of God out of your mouth.



3. Refuse to be moved by the circumstances that are going on around you.
4. Stay in faith regardless of how long it takes.
5. When your day arrives, believe for the supernatural sustaining power of God to allow you to receive the fullness of your promise.
It doesn't matter if I am 45 years older; God can sustain me in age.

Joshua 15:14 (NKJV) – *Caleb drove out the three sons of Anak from there: Sheshai, Ahiman, and Talmi, the children of Anak.*

Closing Note:

Let us check up on how we are following?

How can we improve our following?

What areas of our life can we reset our following?

How we follow determines our harvest.