



## Joshua Chapters 14 to 20 – 4 more Studies – Part 4

### **Please Note the following:**

1. It is not necessary to answer the Bible Study Questions before meeting together for the Bible Study. Some people like to prepare beforehand whereas others like to think through the Bible Passages in a group setting. It is also not compulsory to answer ALL the questions.
2. It is not necessary to look up all the Bible cross references listed in a particular question; your Growth Group Leader will summarize these Bible cross references for you.
3. Just a reminder that sometimes in our Growth Groups, people feel comfortable sharing very personal and sensitive things about their lives. This information **MUST BE CONFIDENTIAL** and **NEVER LEAVE THE GROUP**

## Study 1 – Wholehearted Faith

Joshua 14:1-15

*(Sermon on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2026)*

### Before we begin...

What is **wholehearted faith**?

*Wholehearted faith is trusting and obeying God with your whole life, even when circumstances are difficult or God's promises take a long time to be fulfilled. It is faith that perseveres, refuses to compromise, and continues following God regardless of age, opposition, or delay.*

*The Hebrew word [מלא – mala] means “in fulness” or “in abundance”*

*Caleb is described six times in Scripture as one who “**followed the LORD wholeheartedly**” (Numbers 14:24; 32:12; Deuteronomy 1:36; Joshua 14:8,9,14).*

### Before we begin...

Do some research on who **Caleb** is...

- *Caleb was the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite.*
- *Although associated with Judah, his family was probably originally Gentile (Kenizzites), showing God's grace in welcoming outsiders into His covenant people.*
- *He was one of the twelve spies sent by Moses into Canaan (Numbers 13).*
- *Only Caleb and Joshua trusted God's promise and urged Israel to enter the land; the rest were afraid.*
- *Because of Israel's unbelief, everyone over twenty died in the wilderness except Joshua and Caleb.*
- *Caleb waited about 45 years before finally receiving the inheritance God had promised him.*
- *At 85 years old he was still ready to fight for God's promises.*

### Read Joshua 14:1-15

1. What are the land allotment arrangements on the East and West of the Jordan?  
*The land allotment arrangements were administered by Eleazar, the High Priest, Joshua son of Nun and the heads of the tribal clans of Israel.*



## 2. What explanation is given about Joseph's allotment?

*Joseph received a double inheritance through his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh. Instead of Joseph receiving one tribal allotment, each son became the head of a tribe, fulfilling Jacob's [aka Israel] blessing given in Genesis 48.*

Tribe	Land Allotted
Reuben	East of the Jordan
Simeon	West of the Jordan
Levi	No land allotted
Judah	West of the Jordan
Dan	West of the Jordan
Naphtali	West of the Jordan
Gad	East of the Jordan
Asher	West of the Jordan
Issachar	West of the Jordan
Zebulun	West of the Jordan
Joseph	Split into two tribes <b>Ephraim</b> and <b>Manasseh</b>
Benjamin	West of the Jordan
<b>Ephraim</b>	West of the Jordan
<b>Manasseh</b>	Half of the tribe given land on East Half of the tribe given land on West

*We commonly think and speak of the “twelve tribes of Israel” but actually there were thirteen, because although there were twelve sons of Jacob (Israel), the descendants of one of his sons, Joseph, divided into **two tribes** (**Manasseh** and **Ephraim**).*

## 3. What arrangements are there for the Levites?

*The Levites received **no tribal territory** because **the Lord Himself was their inheritance**. Instead, they were given towns to live in with surrounding pasturelands for their livestock (vv.3–4).*

*These verses explain why you can have two and one-half tribes on the east side of the Jordan River, nine and one-half tribes on the west side of the Jordan River, and one tribe with no province as their inheritance.*

4. What promise does Caleb remind Joshua about? (vv6-9)

*Caleb reminds Joshua that Moses promised he would inherit the land where he had walked because he had followed the Lord wholeheartedly. Specifically, the hill country around Hebron had been promised to him.*

*Note: Promises made by Moses to Caleb below:*

**Numbers 14:24** – God says:

*"I will bring him into the land where he went, and his descendants shall possess it."*

**Deuteronomy 1:36** – Moses says:

*"To him and to his children I will give the land on which he has set his feet, because he has followed the LORD wholeheartedly."*

**Then in Joshua 14:9** – Caleb recalls Moses' oath:

*"Surely the land on which your foot has trodden shall be an inheritance for you and your children forever..."*

**Caleb the son of Jephunneh:** *Caleb, from the tribe of Judah, was one of the twelve spies who scouted out the land of Canaan some forty-five years before when Israel first was on the threshold of the Promised Land (Numbers 13:1-25).*

5. What distinguished Caleb from the other spies? (vv8-9,14)

*While the other spies discouraged Israel through fear and unbelief, Caleb [and also Joshua] trusted God's promise and remained faithful. Caleb's confidence rested in God's power rather than Israel's strength.*

*These verses (8, 9, 14) all mention that **Caleb followed the Lord God wholeheartedly.***

*Caleb was one of only two spies to come back with a good report, a report of faith; believing that God had given Israel the land and would enable them to conquer it (Numbers 13:26-14:9). The other ten spies believed that Israel would be destroyed in the attempt to take Canaan, and Israel believed the ten doubting spies.*

*i. The other faithful spy was none other than Joshua. The ten faithless spies measured the giants against their own strength, but Joshua and Caleb measured the giants against God's strength.*

*ii. This was the cause of Israel's forty years of wandering in the wilderness; God would not allow that generation of unbelief to enter in, so He waited for them to die in the desert (Numbers 14:26-38). The only ones of age at the time of the rejection who actually entered the Promised Land were Joshua and Caleb, the two faithful spies.*

*iii. So, it is fitting as Judah is the first tribe to receive its allotment on the west side of the Jordan, that Caleb be the first among the people of Judah to receive his inheritance.*

*Caleb reminds Joshua about the promise Moses made in Deuteronomy 1:35-36. Note: when Caleb says **I wholly followed the Lord my God**, he isn't being proud — he is just quoting what Moses had said about him. We should imitate Caleb's boldness in asking for what God promised him. We may find it hard to believe, but God appreciates this kind of boldness.*

6. How old was Caleb when he made his request? (v10)

*Caleb was **85 years old**.*

*He was 40 years old when he spied out the land and then spent 45 years waiting for God's promise to be fulfilled.*

***This is how God wants us to be in our spiritual life as we advance in years: growing older, but never weaker in Jesus.***

7. What inheritance did Caleb request? (v12)

*Caleb asked for the hill country around Hebron, including the territory occupied by the Anakites [giants] and their fortified cities.*

*He did not ask for an easy inheritance but for the hardest assignment, which shows the character of Caleb!*

*Caleb wants the fight. He could have asked for an easy place, but he knows that these foes must be faced and figures that he may as well be the one to do it. He doesn't leave the work to someone else, though he could have, especially at his age.*

8. Why was Caleb confident he could defeat the Anakites? (v12)

*Caleb's confidence rested entirely on God's presence: As Caleb himself said: "The LORD helping me, I will drive them out just as he said."*

*Caleb's faith was in God's promise, not in his own strength.*

9. What inheritance did Joshua grant him? (vv13-14)

*Joshua blessed Caleb and gave him Hebron as his inheritance.*

*The land was given to Caleb because he had followed the Lord wholeheartedly.*

10. What does Caleb's life teach us about perseverance?

*Caleb teaches the following about perseverance:*

- *We must trust God over the long term*
- *We must wait patiently for God's timing*
- *We must remain faithful despite delays*
- *We must refuse to let our age and ailments diminish our faith*
- *It's about finishing life as faithfully as it began.*

*Caleb reminds us that God's promises are always worth waiting for.*

***What if all of Israel had the heart of Caleb? What if no one in Israel had the heart of Caleb? Again, Caleb's secret is clear: he wholly followed the Lord God of Israel.***

***There was a total commitment in Caleb's life.***

***What if WE had the heart of Caleb?***

## **Reflection Questions**

11. What does it mean to follow the Lord wholeheartedly?

*It means giving God our complete trust, loyalty and obedience. Wholehearted faith does not mean perfection but an undivided commitment to God's ways, continuing to trust Him in both easy and difficult seasons of life.*

12. How can older believers encourage younger generations through faithfulness?

*Older believers can encourage younger generations by:*

- *Modelling finishing life well*
- *Modelling consistent faithfulness in Christ*
- *Sharing God's faithfulness over many years*
- *Mentoring younger Christians*
  - *Setting a godly example*
  - *Sowing seeds in their hearts*
  - *Encourage them to put their faith in Jesus*
  - *Encourage them to pray and read their Bibles daily*
- *Demonstrating that following Jesus is a lifelong journey.*

*Caleb's greatest testimony came at age 85; it's never too late to give our testimony of faith!*

13. Are there promises of God you are still waiting to see fulfilled?

*Here are some promises that people are still waiting to see fulfilled:*

- *Christ's return at an unknown hour.*
- *Final resurrection of the dead.*
- *Jesus' complete victory over sin.*
- *The full inheritance of eternal life.*
- *Seeing God's work bear fruit in loved ones – our children/grandchildren*
- *Our own growth in holiness – so that God complete the work in us, that He has begun*
- *A revival in our nation*
- *Those miracles that we have been praying for!*

Where is **JESUS** in **Joshua 14:1-15**?

- *Jesus is the greater Joshua, who brings His people into the ultimate inheritance—not earthly land but the new creation (Hebrews 4).*
- *Caleb's inheritance points to the greater inheritance believers receive in Christ (Ephesians 1:11–14; 1 Peter 1:3–5).*
- *Caleb's perseverance anticipates the perseverance Christ enables in His people.*

- *Caleb conquered giants through faith; Jesus conquers the “giants” of sin, death and Satan once for all.*
- *Caleb received Hebron; believers receive an eternal inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.*
- *Ultimately, Caleb faithfulness and obedience points beyond himself to the faithful obedience of Christ, who perfectly followed His Father and secured our inheritance.*

14. How do the following passages relate to **Joshua 14:1-15**?

**Matthew 24:9-13 (especially v13)**

*Jesus teaches that true disciples **endure to the end** despite persecution. Caleb is an Old Testament example of enduring faith [to the end] over many decades.*

**Luke 17:5-6**

*The disciples ask for greater faith. Caleb shows that genuine faith is not measured by size but by steadfast consistent trust in God's promises.*

**2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18**

*Like Caleb, the Apostle Paul finishes well; he fights the good fight to the end! Both Caleb and Paul remained faithful despite great hardships and they both looked forward to the reward God had promised them! We too can look forward to the heavenly crown will be rewarded with!*

**Hebrews 10:32-39**

*Believers are urged not to throw away their confidence but to persevere because God rewards faithful endurance. Caleb illustrates exactly what this kind of patient perseverance looks like. He is an example for us to follow!*

**Revelation 2:10**

*Jesus promises: "**Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.**"*

*Caleb's life foreshadows this call to lifelong faithfulness until the end, so that we receive our heavenly crown!*

What's the **BIG IDEA** of Joshua 14:1-15?

**Wholehearted faith perseveres because God's promises never fail.**



**What light globe moment did you have?**

What **questions** do you have about the passages in this study?

**Share the verse** that had a special meaning to you in this study?

***V14 - So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the Lord, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly***

**Finish in prayer:** Heavenly Father, we thank you for the example of Caleb, who followed you wholeheartedly and trusted your promises throughout his life. Help us to have the same faith, courage, and perseverance. Keep us from growing weary or complacent, but strengthen us to continue serving you faithfully, whatever our age or circumstances. Thank you that all your promises are sure in the Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to trust you, obey you, and look forward to the inheritance you have prepared for your people. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

**Study 2 – Tragic Trends****Joshua 15:1-17:18*****(Sermon on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2026)*****Read Joshua 15:1-63**

1. What tribe receives allotment of land in this chapter?
2. What inheritance did Caleb receive from Joshua? (vv13-14)
3. Who were the Anakites that Caleb defeated? (v14)
4. What challenge did Caleb set before the people? And who accepted the challenge? (vv16-17)
5. Why is Othniel an important person in Israel's history? (cf. Judges 3:7-11)
6. What do we learn about Aksah's request to her father? (vv18-19)
7. Find the land occupied by the tribe of Judah on a map (vv20-62)

8. What failure is noted concerning the Jebusites? Why is this a problem? (v63)

**Read Joshua 16:1-10**

9. **Ponder:** If the allotment of land in this chapter is meant to be to the tribe of Joseph (v1), why does the allotment of land get allocated to Joseph's descendants Manasseh and Ephraim? (v4)

10. Find the land occupied by the tribe of Ephraim on a map (vv5-9)

11. What failure is noted concerning the Canaanites? Why is this a problem? (v10)

**Read Joshua 17:1-18**

12. What tribe receives allotment of land in this chapter? (vv1-2)

13. What special request is there in verses 3 to 6?

14. Find the land occupied by the tribe of Manasseh on a map (vv7-10)

15. What failure is noted concerning the Canaanites? Why is this a problem? (vv12-13)
  
16. What complaint did Joseph's descendants bring to Joshua? (v14)
  
17. How did Joshua respond to their complaint? (vv15-18)
  
18. What does Joshua's answer reveal about faith and responsibility?
  
19. What dangers arise when God's people tolerate compromise?

### **Reflection Questions**

20. In what ways might Christians be tempted to settle for partial obedience?
  
21. In what ways might Christians focus on obstacles rather than God's promises?

Where is **JESUS** in **Joshua 15:1-17:18**?

22. How do the following passages relate to **Joshua 15:1-17:18**?

**Luke 9:62**

**Romans 8:12-17**

**Ephesians 1:15-23**

**Philippians 3:12-14**

**Colossians 1:9-14**

What's the **BIG IDEA** of **Joshua 15:1-17:18**?



**What light globe moment did you have?**

What **questions** do you have about the passages in this study?

**Share the verse** that had a special meaning to you in this study?

**Finish in prayer:** Father God, thank you for your faithfulness in giving your people their inheritance, and for the example of those who trusted you and pressed on in faith. Forgive us where we settle for less than wholehearted obedience, or where we allow fear and compromise to remain. Help us to trust your promises, to take hold of all that you have given us in Christ, and to follow you fully in every part of life. Strengthen us to live by faith and not by sight. We thank you that our true inheritance is kept in heaven for us through Jesus Christ our Lord. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**Study 3 – Do not Delay****Joshua 18:1-19:51*****(Sermon on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2026)*****Read Joshua 18:1-28**

1. Where do the Israelites assemble? Why? Locate Shiloh on a map. (v1). See Acts 7:45
2. What problem do we discover in verse 2?
3. What rebuke does Joshua give in verse 3?
4. Describe the plan Joshua outlines in verses 4 to 6?
5. What exceptions are there in verse 7? Why?
6. How is Joshua's plan implemented in verses 8 to 10?
7. **Ponder:** What does casting lots reveal about God's sovereignty?

8. Find the land allotted to the tribe of **Benjamin** on a map (vv11-28)

**Read Joshua 19:1-51**

9. Find the land allotted to the tribe of **Simeon** on a map (vv1-9)

10. What extra detail about Simeon's allotment is given in verse 9? Why?

11. Find the land allotted to the tribe of **Zebulun** on a map (vv10-16)

12. Find the land allotted to the tribe of **Issachar** on a map (vv17-23)

13. Find the land allotted to the tribe of **Asher** on a map (vv24-31)

14. Find the land allotted to the tribe of **Naphtali** on a map (vv32-39)

15. Find the land allotted to the tribe of **Dan** on a map (vv40-48)

16. What inheritance did Joshua receive? Why? Find on a map. (vv49-50)
  
17. When did Joshua receive this inheritance?
  
18. What leadership qualities do we see in Joshua?

### **Reflection Questions**

19. How can spiritual laziness hinder growth?
  
20. Are there blessings or opportunities from God we have neglected?
  
21. How does Joshua model servant leadership?

Where is **JESUS** in **Joshua 18:1-19:51**?

22. How do the following passages relate to **Joshua 18:1-19:51**?  
**Mark 10:42-45**

**Ephesians 5:15-20**

**Philippians 2:3-8**

**Philippians 3:12-14**

**Hebrews 2:1-4**

**Hebrews 4:1**

What's the ***BIG IDEA*** of Joshua 18:1-19:51?



**What light globe moment did you have?**

What ***questions*** do you have about the passages in this study?

**Share the verse** that had a special meaning to you in this study?

**Finish in prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank you for your faithfulness in keeping every promise you make. As we have seen in Joshua 18–19, you gave each tribe the inheritance you had prepared for them. Thank you that through the Lord Jesus you have also given us a sure and eternal inheritance. Forgive us for the times we are slow to trust you or reluctant to step out in obedience. Give us willing hearts to take hold of all that you have for us, and help us not to become complacent in our walk with you. Like Joshua, teach us to serve others humbly and to seek your will in all we do. May we live each day with confidence in your promises, pressing on until we receive the fullness of our inheritance in Christ. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Study 4 – Cities of Refuge

Joshua 20:1-9

*(Sermon on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2026)*

### Read Numbers 35

1. Summarise what God told Moses to command the Israelites to do.

### Read Joshua 20:1-9

2. Why did God command cities of refuge to be established? (vv1-3)
3. What protection did these cities provide? (v3, v9)
4. What role do the elders of these cities play? (vv4-5)
5. How long was a person to remain in the city of refuge? (v6)

6. How many cities? List their names and find them on a map. (vv7-8) See Deuteronomy 19:2-3.

7. **Ponder:** How do these cities point forward to Jesus?

### Reflection Questions

8. Ponder: Why is the taking of a life, whether intentional or not, a problem? (cf. Genesis 9:6; Numbers 35:31, 33-34; Deuteronomy 17:6-7; Romans 13:3-4)

9. Why do sinners need a refuge?

10. What comfort do believers find in Jesus' protection?

11. How should God's mercy to us shape our treatment of others?

12. **Ponder:** What would it look like today to honour the sanctity of human life?

Where is **JESUS** in **Joshua 20:1-9**?

13. How do the following passages relate to **Joshua 20:1-9**?

**Psalm 46:1**

**Matthew 11:28-30**

**John 10:27-30**

**Acts 4:12**

**Romans 5:6-8**

**Romans 8:1-4**

**Romans 8:31-39**

**1 Corinthians 15:1-3****Hebrews 6:18**

What's the **BIG IDEA** of Joshua 20:1-9?



**What light globe moment did you have?**

What **questions** do you have about the passages in this study?

**Share the verse** that had a special meaning to you in this study?

**Finish in prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank you for your grace and mercy, shown long ago in providing cities of refuge for your people. Thank you that these point us to the Lord Jesus Christ, our perfect refuge, in whom we find forgiveness, safety, and peace. Thank you that all who come to Him in faith are welcomed and will never be cast out. Help us to trust in Christ alone, knowing that there is no condemnation for those who are in Him. Teach us to reflect your justice, mercy, and compassion in the way we treat others, and help us to be faithful in pointing those around us to the only true refuge found in Jesus. We ask this in His precious name. Amen.