

# Give Me This Mountain

Joshua 14:6-12

Ever climb a mountain? Imagine shivering in -76° on Mt Everest, feeling nauseous and battling a crashing headache from the altitude? No way! Sir Edmund Hillary reached the summit of Mt Everest on May 29, 1953. He said, **“It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves.”**

Jesus told us that we can conquer mountains when we have faith in the Lord, and that faith is in accordance with His will. Mt 17:20 ***“For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.”***

Most of us have no desire to risk our lives climbing a mountain. However, we all have figurative mountains in our daily lives. We have mountains to climb but so did Joshua and Caleb.

## Let’s Talk About Caleb?

One of the 12 spies sent by Moses. Num 13:6 Only Caleb and Joshua had faith to defeat the Anakims. Num 13: 30-33; 14: 1-10

Caleb said: ***“Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.”***

45 years later, Caleb said: ***“Give me this mountain.”*** Josh 14: 12

Caleb has a faith that conquers mountains. How did he attain it?

**Caleb had Conviction** He wholly followed Jehovah. Josh 14: 8,9,14; Heb 11: 6

- Half-hearted Christians will not get things done.
- Half-hearted Christians will never believe that all things are possible to them that believe. Mark 9: 23
- Caleb believed whole heartedly that all things are possible.

**Caleb was Confident** – *“I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said”* Josh 14: 12; Phil 4: 13

- The pessimist says it cannot be done. Num 13: 31
- How many good works failed to take off because someone said it cannot be done?

**Caleb had Commitment** – No retirement: *“I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me”* Josh 14: 11

- a. When others said, “We can’t”– Caleb said, “We can!”
- b. When others said, “Let’s turn back” – Caleb said “Let’s go forward”
- c. When others said, “The best is behind us” – Caleb said “The best is before us”
- d. When others said, “Give me the good old days” – Caleb said, “Give me this mountain”
- e. Convenient Christian will never have the same commitment as Caleb.

**Caleb was Courageous** - Many would say that 85 years old is too old to still be going out to war and climbing mountains; but not Caleb. 85 years old wasn’t too old for brother Pickup Sr. to go on Mission trips and visit.

When others said, “Take it easy” – Caleb said, “Give me this mountain.”

**Caleb showed Constancy** – 45 years is a long wait for the promise to be fulfilled. Josh 14: 7, 10

When others said, “It is enough; let the younger ones do it.” Caleb said, “Give me this mountain.” Caleb has no desire to rest till God tells him to rest.

How do you conquer mountains? Conviction – No Conviction = No Commitment. Half-hearted Christians are faint-hearted Christians and they never learn to conquer the mountains in their lives.

Kill the Grasshoppers. Num 13: 33. Stop saying, “I can’t.” Slay the Giants – Num 14: 8-9 – We are more than conquerors. Rom 8: 37

**Make Preparations** –Put on the whole armor of God. Eph 6: 13-17

- a. Knowledge – Have you grown in knowledge? 2 Pet 3: 18
- b. Godliness – Have you drawn closer to God? 1 Tim 4: 7
- c. Christian Graces – How is your Christian Character? 2 Pet 1: 3-10

## **Many mountains are not what they seem.**

**Punctuality** – 9:30 am is too early! Is it?? When we had kids at home we took great care to have them in their rooms at an appropriate hour so that we could get them up 2.5 hours before Bible class on Sunday morning. It was never easy, but it was done. Our children would drag their feet from time to time, but we would correct that and tell them that this was an absolute in their lives. We did not allow our children to stay out late on Saturday. 11 pm was the latest because we had an appointment with God the next morning. The kids came to accept this in time.

**Hospitality/Benevolence** – We hosted many preachers in our home over the years. Our children were a part of that. They learned hospitality because we taught them hospitality.

**Dress** – Heb 12:22-24 *“But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.”*

**Work** – What is important in life gets our time. We are all busy and our time is valuable. However, do I surf the internet, go window shopping, and take vacations, read the newspaper and watch TV? All these things are fine but if we don’t have time for God because these things take our time....well.....

## **Some real mountains to conquer.**

**In Me** – Anger, hatred, selfishness, impatience, addiction, pride, divisive spirit, and etc.

**Eldership** – Will you be an elder in the Lord's family? There are costs to pay:

- Physical Cost – It will drain you physically.
- Emotional Cost – Leading in the church is one of the most emotionally draining things you will EVER do.
- Spiritual Cost – The more you become a leader, the greater the intensity of spiritual attack on your life.
- Personal Cost – It will affect you as a person. All your energy, thought, and time will be centered on this work.

## **With God we can conquer these mountains:**

Mountain of Indecision – I wait. 1 Kings 18:21

Mountain of Indifference – I don't care. Phil 2: 20, 21

Mountain of Insecurity – I can't. Phil. 4:13

Mountain of Inoperativeness – I won't. Matt 21: 28-30

Mountain of Iniquity – I sin. 2 Tim 2: 22

## **Conclusion: "Lord, Give Me This Mountain!" Josh 14:12**

A. Will You Ask For the Mountain?

B. It is not too late to conquer mountains.

C. Caleb was a faithful servant; few men have done their work so well.

D. Our conviction affects all our other relationships. True Faith will lead to commitment.

Convenient Christians lack commitment.

Convenient Christians will never give God their whole heart. They will not sacrifice their personal comfort for the common good.

Caleb is a very good example of one who is totally faithful and committed to God. He served God when he was young. He served God when he was old. He desired mountains and not plains.

Let us follow in the example of Caleb. Can you say like him: “I wholly followed the LORD my God”? Will you ask for the mountain? Or will you remain in the plain?