

# GROUUPS

s e r m o n g u i d e

JOSHUA: 7/5/2026 - Pastor Marie Carlson

## MAIN IDEA

THE LORD KEPT ME

## TALK ABOUT IT

**Ice Breaker:** If you could have one sentence written on your tombstone that describes your relationship with God, what would you want it to say?

1. Caleb was described as someone who "wholly followed the Lord." What do you think that phrase means in everyday life, and what would it look like for someone to notice that about you?
2. Caleb remembered God's promise for forty-five years. Is there a promise from Scripture that has carried you through a difficult season? If so, share it.
3. When life feels uncertain, whose voice or what message do you tend to listen to first—God's Word, your fears, other people's opinions, or something else? Why do you think that is?
4. Caleb could have spent his life talking about what others did wrong, but instead he focused on God's faithfulness. Is there a disappointment or hurt you're still rehearsing that God may be inviting you to surrender?
5. Caleb's testimony was, "The Lord has kept me." Looking back over the last year—or the last ten years—where can you clearly see God's hand sustaining you?
6. The sermon challenged us to "read your stinkin' Bible." What has helped you consistently spend time in God's Word, and what obstacles tend to get in the way?
7. Caleb was eighty-five years old when he stepped into God's promise. What does his story teach us about waiting on God's timing and refusing to give up?

## KEY SCRIPTURES

JOSHUA 14:6-14 (READ THE WHOLE CHAPTER)

## TALK ABOUT IT (CONT.)

8. Caleb asked for the mountain instead of the easy land. If you were completely honest, what "mountain" has God been inviting you to climb that you've been avoiding?
9. Hebrews 4:16 reminds us that we can boldly approach God's throne because of Jesus. Is it easier for you to come to God with confidence or with hesitation? What shapes that response?
10. The sermon reminded us that our inheritance is no longer just a place but the presence of Christ. How does that truth change the way you think about success, fulfillment, or God's promises?
11. Finish this sentence as honestly as you can: "This week, because the Lord has kept me, I will take one step toward the mountain by..." Then pray for the person next to you to have the courage to take that step.

## NEXT STEPS

- **ENCOUNTER:**
  - **Sage Hills Social - Christmas in July - July 26 @ 6pm**
- **EXPERIENCE:**
  - **PRAY for Fall Small Group leader recruitment**
- **EXPAND**
  - PRAY for VBS and kids to respond to God's love - 3 Nights of Fun sharing the Gospel! July 7, 8 & 9!

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## NOTES

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### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

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