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Lessons from the Book and Life of Joshua chapter 14

Review Scripture:

Isaiah 1:19 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best of the land.

Current Scripture:

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

Introduction: Each of the tribes of Israel have been given their individual lands and territories that was promised to them by God. The unique instructions to the tribe of Levi, the priestly tribe, was that their inheritance was the Lord and their survival would depend on the generosity of the other tribes. The other tribes had to bring their tithes to the Lord and in doing so, the tribe of Levi would be blessed. God gave an overall promise to the children of Israel that he would drive out their enemies, but he also intended for them to take responsibility in possessing their own land. In the same way, God expects us to be like the 11 tribes and fight the battles He promised to give to us. He also expects us to be like the tribe of Levi, knowing that the ultimate inheritance is found not in what we have, but in who we serve.

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1. Joshua 14:1-5 The _____ of the land on the western side.

- a. Joshua, Eleazar and representatives from each tribe came together to see what land would be given out according by the casting of lots.
- b. There were actually 13 tribes because Joseph's descendants were divided into two; Manasseh and Ephraim.
- c. Everything in the economy of God doesn't always make sense to our logic, but just like the children of Israel we must learn to trust that He knows best.

2. Joshua 14:6-9 The _____ made to Caleb.

- a. He was one of the 12 spies who scouted out the land of Canaan almost 45 years earlier. Numbers 13:1-25.
- b. He and Joshua were the only two who came back with a report filled with faith.
 - i. The 10 other spies measured the children of Israel's strength against the strength of the giants, but Joshua and Caleb measured the giant's strength against the strength of the God they served.

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- ii. Only the two faithful spies were able to enter into the Promised land.
- iii. As a result, Caleb reminds Joshua of the promise made to him in Deuteronomy 1:35-36. The tribe of Judah, with Caleb, included were the first to received its allotment on the west side of the Jordan.
- c. The most successful people are those who have wholly given themselves over to something. This man gave himself wholly to following the Lord and is blessed as a result.

- 3. Joshua 14:10-15** Caleb _____ God's _____.
- a. Caleb's strength hadn't weakened all of the years he had waited, and he was still ready to lead the fight against the Anakim that he would've fought 40 years earlier.
 - i. He could have asked for an easier place, but knew these foes must be faced and he volunteers to be the one to lead it.
 - b. In our spiritual walk, we should be going from glory to glory, growing older in our mortal bodies, but stronger in Christ year by year.
 - i. The key is in wholly following the Lord God which brings a heart of faith, of courage and strength.
 - ii. What are some of the promises God has given to you that you've held onto for years that still need to be fought for?

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iii. What kind of mental strength will it take in order to make those dreams a reality?
