**Position Yourself 2022- Give Me This Mountain**

**Survival Kit – Part 2**

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# **Introduction**

From my corporate days, I remember teambuilding retreats that the leadership team would attend. The larger group was separated into smaller groups and each group was provided a case study on survival. The case study involved a plane crash where all the passengers survived and some critical objects were available such as matches a flashlight, etc. The point of the exercise was to collaborate as a team, decide if you would venture out on your own to be rescued or if you would stay at the crash site. If you decided to leave you had to consider which items you would take with you to ensure your survival. Each item was given a score and eventually experts explained why certain items were more important than others and how they could be utilized in order to ensure the safety of life. The items the individuals brought with them would be considered their survival kit.

As we enter new year, if we are going to survive, we are going to need certain things within our spiritual survival kit. However, it does not take a spiritual giant to figure it out. There are some key questions we need to consider:

1. What will we take with us?
2. What do we require?
3. What is the cost?
4. How will we have to collaborate with one another?

As we continue to position ourselves for the year 2022 and we look through our character study of Caleb, we see some incredible attributes of this man that we can implement within our own spiritual walk with Christ.

# **Central Truth**

2022 is going to require a very different approach. As believers, we not only require “another” strategy, but we also need to be armed with a different attitude. Caleb is an outstanding example of a person that stood out from the crowd and received his full inheritance from God.

# **Main Passage**

**Joshua 14:13-14**

13 And Joshua blessed him and gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh as an inheritance.

14 Hebron therefore became **the inheritance of Caleb the son** of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel.

**Ephesians 1:11-12**

11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, 12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

**Ephesians 1:18**

…having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, …

**Colossians 3:24**

…knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

**Caleb's Requests and Inheritance**

**Joshua 14:7-12**

7 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. 8 Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, but I **wholly followed the LORD my God.**

9 So 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.'** 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.

11 As 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. 12 Now 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."

# **Main Points**

**Survival Kit 2022: What You Need to Have in Your Arsenal**

1. **“Another” spirit: What is it?**

When God surveyed all the responses of the spies that went into the promised land, he noted the two people, Joshua and Caleb, possessed a different spirit, or another spirit. What exactly made these two men different and how could 12 people observe the very same things and come out with a completely different outlook?

* What did God mean that he had a different spirit?
* What made Caleb so different than anyone else around him?
* His resolute stand on God’s ability to fulfil His promises caused him to stand out as a minority amongst many negative voices and reports
* This unique attribute that Caleb possessed qualified him to enter the promised land 45 years later.
* By the term spirit, we mean, attitude, passion, energy, focus and resolve.

1. **Be Valiant – Possessing Unprecedented Determination**

A part of having another spirit meant that Caleb had a valiant heart. His undying determination caused him to survive 45 years in the wilderness. He would have to overcome the daily grind of the complaints and murmuring of people that had lost their dream and could never fulfil their potential.

**Joshua 14:12**

Now 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."

* Consider some key aspects of being valiant:
* The “sound” of being valiant – like a trumpet, those that are valiant produce a clear and resounding sound, it is the sound of war and battle
* The Great Awakening – those that are valiant always have an awakening moment in their life, a point that seems to change everything:
* Be valiant – to be bold, to be brave – courage that comes from the Spirit of God - fearless
* Fearless and unapologetic – “your argument is not with me it’s with God “

1. **An Accurate Assessment of Our God-Given Abilities/Strength**

**Joshua 14:11**

As 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.

Perhaps, Caleb could come across as being somewhat cocky and overconfident; however, a closer look at his character and his report would suggest that nothing could be farther from the truth. In fact, everything that Caleb said was backed up by God Himself. Caleb not only possessed a valiant spirit but he was also a man of valour:

* Valour – is courage in the face of danger or battle
* Longevity - strength for war – “as strong today as I was”
* Place a demand on your strength
* Strength is a work and grace of Holy Spirit
* Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might
* And they don’t know their God shall be strong and do great exploits
* Ward off discouragement with all that is in you.

1. **An UNDIVIDED Heart That Is Determined On “Wholly Following the Lord” No Matter What Comes**

**Joshua 14:8**

Nevertheless my brethren who went up with me made the heart of the people melt, but I **wholly followed the LORD my God.**

1. Part of what made Caleb incredibly unique was his ability to keep his heart from melting, from being divided, and from submitting to fear and intimidation. His focus remained steadfast on God’s promise, God’s ability, and on his undying devotion to remain upon the path of life.

* Undivided meaning that our heart is full of God and fixed on the Word of the Lord

1. The danger in our present-day Christianity is the “mixture” of faith and world beliefs:

* Double minded
* Undecided
* Unsure
* Wavering between opinions
* Christians need to decide what they believe

1. A calibration of the heart and the mouth - out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks

* Do not let your heart melt
* Guard your heart for out of it comes the issues of life.

# **From Pastor Rick Ciaramitaro – Three Keys to 2022**

1. **Embrace persecution as the will of God for living godly**

**2Timothy 3:12**

Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. (NLT)

1. **Keep hope and focus on His redemption**

**Luke 21:28**

Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

1. **A courageous spirit**

**Daniel 11:32**

Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery; ***but the people who know their God shall be strong and carry out great exploits.***

* Exploits - a striking or notable deed; feat; spirited or heroic act.

# **Quotes**

“Your argument is not with me, it’s with God”.

“They that know their God are going to accomplish great feats”.

“All the darkness cannot stop the light from coming through”.

“Discouragement is a wicked enemy, ward it off with everything in you, don’t give it an inch”.

**Family Blessing 2022 - Four Things to Pray Over People In 2022**

1. As the mountains surround Jerusalem so the Lord surrounds His people

**Psalms 125:2**

As the mountains surround Jerusalem, So the Lord surrounds His people from this time forth and forever.

1. Living life according to God’s to script
2. “Another” spirit – the anointing of Caleb

**Numbers 14: 24**

But My servant Caleb, because he has a **“different”** spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.

1. May the Lord prosper you

**3John 1:2**

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.

**Group Questions & Discussion**

1. Add at least three other items to your survival kit and explain what benefit they would add.
2. Describe a time in your life when you had to battle a divided heart. What were the circumstances? What did it take to become undivided?
3. Describe a time where you had to stand alone for your beliefs? What was the outcome? How did it make you stronger?
4. What do you believe about yourself that you hope God will back you up on?
5. As you look back over your walk with God, would you say that you are as passionate, as close to the Lord, and as spiritually strong as you were at the height of your faith? Why or why not?
6. Are there any aspects of Caleb’s character that line up with your life? Identify and explain.
7. Have you ever had an experience in your life when your heart melted within you? What was the cause? Did other people initiate it? How did you overcome?