

222 Words

Caleb Practices Patience

by

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Imagine waiting years for a promise to come true. Caleb celebrated his eighty-fifth birthday as he thought of the new home God promised forty-five years earlier. Camping in the wilderness for such a long time was not what Caleb expected. Would he keep on believing God?

God had led Israel through the wilderness to the border of Canaan. He promised the beautiful land as their new home, and Moses chose twelve men, including Caleb, for a special mission. They were to spy on the Canaanite armies and learn about the land.

Caleb bubbled with excitement. God had indeed provided a wonderful home for Israel. Ten of the spies disagreed with Caleb's report and convinced the people the enemy was too strong to defeat. Rebellion against God's plan broke out in the camp.

God commended Caleb for his faithfulness and good report, but decreed that Israel would not enter the land. They would wander in the wilderness until each of the faithless men grew old and died. Only Caleb and his friend, Joshua, would survive.

Caleb believed in God's power. He was ready to claim the land that day. Now he roamed the wilderness along with the rest. When would God's promise come true?

Caleb practiced patience as he waited. He learned that God controls even the delays in our lives.