



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	A Different Spirit	SPEAKER	SP Chua Seng Lee
THEME	A Disciple-Making Church	DATE	25 & 26 July 2026

MESSAGE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

When Moses sent twelve spies into the Promised Land, all twelve witnessed the same land. Yet only Joshua and Caleb returned with a report that reflected faith in God's promises. The other ten spies allowed what they saw to shape what they believed, causing fear to spread throughout the camp. Although they had godly names, they failed to trust the God. Caleb, however, stood out because God Himself testified that he had **"a different spirit"**. Like Caleb, we are called to develop a different spirit in a world that is often driven by fear, doubt and human reasoning. We can cultivate this different spirit by allowing God to transform the way we **see**, the way we **feel**, and the way we **act**.

The Way He Sees

In Numbers 13 and 14, the ten spies brought back a negative report, and the Israelites responded with fear, testing and rebelling against God. Their focus was on the size of the inhabitants of the land and their own inability to overcome them. However, God said something unique about Caleb: **he had a different spirit**. What made Caleb's spirit different from the others?

The difference was the way Caleb saw things. All twelve spies saw the same Promised Land. They saw its richness and abundance, but while the ten spies saw giants that made them feel like grasshoppers, Caleb saw the power, faithfulness and provision of God. As Caleb declared in Numbers 14:7-8, the land was exceedingly good, and if the Lord was pleased with them, He would surely bring them into the land and give it to them. Selective attention can cause us to pay attention only to what we want to see, and miss out on other interesting or important details.

Similarly, during challenging times, don't be limited by what you have seen or by the circumstances that are before you. Ask God to show you what He wants you to see. We must be careful not to let pride prevent us from aligning with God's agenda. Like Caleb, who saw God and His promises as greater than the challenges before him, look beyond the situation itself and see through the lens of faith. Develop the habit of seeking God in every situation, rather than simply focusing on what is visible or what appears to be impossible.

The Way He Feels

Caleb was different from the ten spies because of the way he feels. Numbers 14: 1-2, 9 and Numbers 13:30. He was confident in his ability to:

- Quiet the people.
- Possess the land and overcome the enemy.

He was fearless because of the Lord and His promises. Fear can dictate or influence our decisions, however God has given us:

- A spirit of power, not fear (2 Timothy 1:7).
- A spirit of adoption as sons, not slavery leading to fear (Romans 8:15)

We need to guard how we feel and not allow fear to steer our logic. Fear is not from God, so how do we address our fear? Perfect love casts out fear. Our love for God can overcome the fear of man (1 John 4:18-19). Therefore, be like Caleb who feels based on the promises of God.

The Way He Acts

Caleb was different from the ten spies because of the way he acts (Numbers 14:24). During the events of Numbers 13-14, Caleb was 40. Caleb had followed God wholeheartedly throughout his life. By the time of the events recorded in Joshua, Caleb was 85, and had continued to follow God fully (Joshua 14:8-9,14). He had followed God all his life, even when others didn't. His peers, Joshua's generation, all died in the desert and were outlived by Caleb. He continued to follow God fully even when the journey ahead was filled with giants. Caleb did not give up; he remained faithful to God until the end.

Caleb also intentionally involved the next generation in conquering the mountain (Joshua 15:16-19). Call to action to the mature BBTicians: take the hardest route for Jesus. Reach out to your peers whom the youth cannot reach. Involve the youth, walk with and mentor them. Let your ceiling be a foundation to build upon for those that come after. Celebrate them and invest in them.

Call to action for the youth: appreciate the elders, and their wisdom. See their lives and the lessons they have modelled. Ask them for blessings. Believe that they believe in you, that your success is their success.

How To Finish Well?

Be a Caleb, a man with a different spirit because of the way he sees, feels, and acts.

The meaning of Caleb's name is without obvious honour or spiritual legacy. Yet Caleb had a different spirit. His faith was not defined by his background or what he inherited, but by how he chose to see God and follow Him. We can develop a spirit like Caleb's by allowing God to shape our perspective, letting His Promises transform our hearts, and choosing to follow Him faithfully all the days of our lives.

QUESTIONS

1. Caleb had a different spirit because he saw, felt, and acted differently. Which of these areas has God been challenging you to grow in?

2. Share about a situation you faced where fear affected the way you viewed a challenge. How might seeing God's promises change your perspective?

3. How can you be part of God's work to build up the next generation - whether by investing and mentoring others, or by honouring and learning from those who have faithfully walked the journey?