Dear Open Door Family,

Loyalty is one of those words that is used but many times people do not have a very good sense of its true meaning. When we speak of loyalty we think of be a loyal fan of a local college team. But loyalty is a rich word which can mean being faithful, trustworthy and devoted. What does it mean for us to be Loyal or Faithful to God? Let's look at a great Old Testament Example together.

Joshua 14:9-10,12-13 (NET)

That day Moses made this solemn promise: 'Surely the land on which you walked will belong to you and your descendants permanently, for you remained loyal to the Lord your God.' [10] So now, look, the Lord has preserved my life, just as he promised, these past forty-five years since the Lord spoke these words to Moses, during which Israel traveled through the wilderness. Now look, I am today eighty-five years old. ...[12] Now, assign me this hill country which the Lord promised me at that time! No doubt you heard at that time that the Anakites (giants) live there in large, fortified cities. But, assuming the Lord is with me, I will CONQUER them, AS THE LORD PROMISED." [13] Joshua asked God to empower Caleb son of Jephunneh and assigned him Hebron

What an amazing man Caleb was. He and Joshua were the only 2 spies, out of the 12 original spies sent into the land, who believed God would deliver the Land to the Israelites. They were the only two from that whole generation who left Egypt who made it into the promised land. Caleb has waited patiently 45 years for God to fulfill His promise. He is still confident in God and still believes God will do what He said. So he asks to be given the land of Hebron. Not an easy task. But in FAITH Trusting God "assuming the Lord is with me" he was going to move forward and have victory over the giants and conquer the fortified cities that God has promise him. All I can say is way to go Caleb. Joshua prays for him and assigns him the Land. We find out in chapter 15 that Caleb was successful and conquered the Land given to him. What was special was His Faith and Trust in God. When God promised something he believed it and waited patiently for God's timing. Then stepped out in bold Faith and conquered in the Strength God provided.

PRAYER: Lord, help me to be Faithful and Loyal to You like Caleb. Help me to wait patiently for your timing and to Trust You no matter what is happening. Help me to seek Your Strength and help for each new day.

Pastor Mark Kieft