

**Title: Wholehearted Living.**

**Scriptures (NIV) -**2 Chronicles 25:2, 14-16, Joshua 14:7-14, Numbers 14:24, 32:11-12

**To be Wholehearted** - suggests sincerity and earnest devotion without reservation or misgiving.

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary, defines **Wholeheartedly** as:

1. Completely and sincerely devoted, determined, or enthusiastic.
2. Marked by complete earnest commitment; free from all reserve or hesitation

The opposite of **Wholeheartedness** is to be *halfhearted or having a divided heart*.

King Amaziah’s example of divided heart: 2 Chronicles 25:2,14-16.

The scripture gives us the best definition of being wholehearted - God made a clear distinction between the Children of Israel and Joshua & Caleb. Numbers 14:11, Numbers 32:11-12

Ten spies saw the obstacles as **insurmountable** while the two saw it as **insignificant**. Do you remember the names of any of the ten faithless spies? I doubt not.

From scripture, **being wholehearted is to believe!**

“For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

In Numbers 14:3,31, the Israelites voiced concern for their families; they didn’t want to take risks that would jeopardize their safety.

The greatest heritage we can leave our children isn’t material wealth but a legacy of Godly inheritance.

Remember that every promise of God will be challenged (Joseph – Psalms 105:19) and you will have what you say (Proverbs 18:21, Colossians 4:6 (NIV)).

**Three (3) things about being Wholehearted:**

1. Take the risk of being **“all in”** wholeheartedly for God (otherwise you run the risk of being halfhearted or hard hearted) - that generation thought it was too risky to obey God. He would have taken everyone into the promised land. It was not God who limited them. It was their half-heartedness. Being halfhearted is actually the greater risk. In 1 Kings 19:19-21 - Elisha destroyed his farming implements, not planning on coming back - he was wholehearted in following God.
   * Same is true in Marriage; you start being wholehearted but if you become halfhearted, your marriage ends up in the desert.
   * That’s also true in your career; you get halfhearted, and you end up in the desert.
   * That is true at church, when you get halfhearted in your faith, you find yourself in the desert.
2. Wholeheartedness is more about devotion than emotion.
3. Wholeheartedness impresses God and frees Him to bless us.Numbers 14:24 (NIV)**.**

To follow fully is the same as being wholehearted. Also, to be loyal.

Joshua.14:7-10

1. God kept Caleb alive 45 years later. (vs. 10)
2. He was still strong and vigorous. (vs. 11)
3. He was still in the game and relevant. (vs. 12)
4. He received the promise…. (vs. 13)
5. **…**Along with his children. Deuteronomy 1:35-36 (NIV)

There were three (3) witnesses to the fact that Caleb wholeheartedly followed the Lord, and the same will be true of us if we are wholehearted for Him.

1. **Caleb himself was the first witness.**See what he was able to say of himself – look up Joshua 14:8. This was not a sinful boast; it was a sincere testimony. Can we say the same concerning the past years, months, days, days or hour?
2. **Moses was the second witness.** See what he said of Caleb in Joshua 14: 9. If we are wholly following the Lord, we not only know it in our own hearts, but those around us know it also. What do our unconverted friends say about our following?
3. **The Lord was the third witness.** See what He said of His servant in Numbers 14: 24. Can the Lord, who knows the hearts of all men, say that of us? This is the supreme test, and the thing which matters most: what does the Lord say about my devotion?