

Never Too Old or Too Young

Scripture: **Joshua 14:10-12**
Jeremiah 1:5-10

Joshua 14:10-12 KJV And now, behold, the Lord hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the Lord spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old.¹¹ As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.¹² **Now therefore give me this mountain**, whereof the Lord spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the Lord will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the Lord said.

Jeremiah 1:5-10 KJV Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.⁶ Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.⁷ But the Lord said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.⁸ Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the Lord.⁹ Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.¹⁰ See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

I. The old guy - Caleb

Joshua 14:12 KJV **Now therefore give me this mountain**, whereof the Lord spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the Lord will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the Lord said.

A. He dwelt upon his strengths

Joshua 14:11 KJV **As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me**: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.

B. He trusted in the Lord

Joshua 14:12b KJV if so be the Lord will be with me, then I shall be

able to drive them out, as the Lord said.

C. He had a vision for his future

Joshua 14:12a KJV **Now therefore give me this mountain**, whereof the Lord spake in that day;

II. The young guy - Jeremiah

Jeremiah 1:6-7 KJV Then said I, Ah, Lord God! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.

A. Jeremiah's Inaccurate view

1. He thought he was under-qualified
2. He thought he was too young
3. He could not see the potential God saw

B. God saw prophet potential in Jeremiah

Jeremiah 1:5 KJV Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

1. Never doubt what God says you can be
2. God will equip you for the task

Jeremiah 1:9 KJV Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

III. Making ourselves available

Isaiah 6:8 KJV Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, **Here am I; send me.**

A. Stop making excuses

B. Be willing to serve where God places you

C. Be faithful and He will advance you

Conclusion

There is a place for you to serve. God is asking you to volunteer for service. He will enable you to serve faithfully.