

Dear Friend:

Last week I preached a message entitled: "Wanting God's More In 2024". The scripture passage was from Joshua 14, and I focused on Caleb's faith and how he wanted more than the rest of his countrymen when it came to dividing territory. Actually, let me clarify this: the scripture does not say he wanted more acreage. To be specific, it appears that he wanted a bigger challenge - he wanted mountain country, and he got it!

Fast forward around 400 years later and we meet another guy who is bold enough to ask God for big things. His name is Jabez, and he wants more territory than the average person and he plans to use it to bring honor to God, here is his prayer: "Oh that you would bless me indeed and enlarge my territory, that your hand would be with me and that you would keep me from evil so that I may not cause pain." Then Jabez disappears from the Bible as quick as he appeared. We only know about him from 2 verses of the Bible but from these 2 verses we see a person who was not afraid to ask - to ask God for more than the average person. What is important here is two things: 1) Jabez asked "big" and 2) Jabez did not ask selfishly.

Here is a challenge to you for 2024: ask God for more! Ask him for more than you did in 2023. Ask for his hand to be with you - to be upon you and do great things for him in 2024. While you're at it - ask the same for Franklin Church.

In Christ's love,

*Pastor Mike*

Prayer Requests: Donna Clickenger (vertebrae fracture & deterioration), Bonnie Boone (shut-in)