

ACADEMY REPORTER

BE A CALEB

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. *Joshua 14:12*

We live in a day when everyone is looking for the easy way out. It is hard to find those who are willing to work hard; most people want jobs with little or no work and lots of pay. Students want good grades, but do not take time to study. Pastors want the church to grow, but seem to think that it will somehow take place spontaneously. Unfortunately, many of us try to do the same thing spiritually.

Spiritual growth, however, always requires a consistent, concerted effort. God desires a relationship with us, but the relationship is on His terms. We can never do anything to earn a relationship with God. On the other hand, a passion to know God more intimately will make a difference in our actions. Following God requires deliberate, persistent effort even in difficult times.

Caleb exemplifies this spirit. The Israelites were possessing the land of Canaan, and it was time to divide up the land. Eighty-five-year-old Caleb asked for the inheritance that had been promised to him by Moses as a reward for his faithfulness. After forty-five years, Caleb was claiming the Anakim-inhabited mountain that had caused the Israelites to doubt in the first place. Caleb was eager to take on the very giants that caused others to draw back in fear.

What was the difference? Caleb knew that God would provide all that was needed to carry out His Divine plan. As an old man, Caleb could have asked for land that had already been conquered but instead chose to take on the giants. Are there any giants that God would want to use us to subdue? The battles are never easy, but God will enable us just as he did Caleb. God promises that we can be "more than conquerors." Are you willing to make a difference?

Thanks to all who made our Blood Drive a success. We had fifty-six donors and nine deferrals for a total of sixty-five. Three more drives to go!

THE PRINCIPAL'S PUZZLER

This week's winner: No One

This week's hint: Think postage stamp usage.

This week's puzzle: The famous 'Penny Black', the world's first postage stamp, was introduced in England in 1840. The idea of postage stamps was a great success and was taken up worldwide. Yet the 'Penny Black' was in use for only one year before it was replaced by the 'Penny Red'. Why?



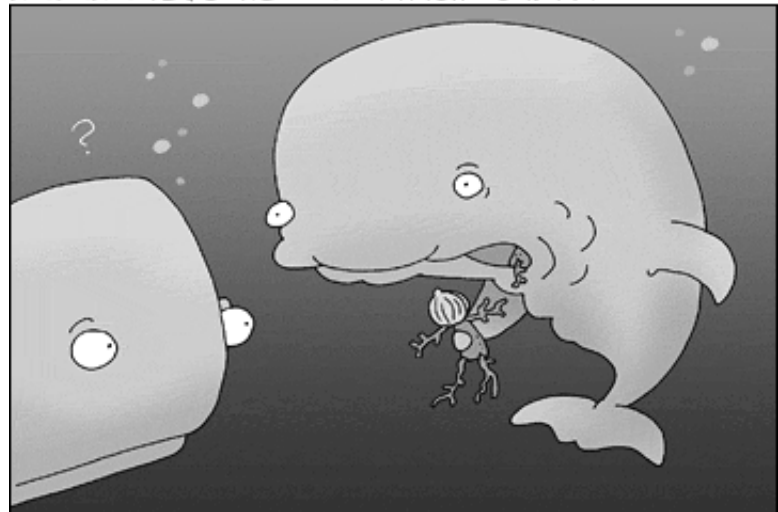
REMINDERS

October 3 - Old Fashion Day

October 16 – End of the First Quarter

October 27-29 – Missions Convention

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(See Jonah 1-4)

09-04-2009

**YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN GOD WILL CALL ON ME,
AND I WANT TO BE PREPARED**

I have seen and read the Friday Letter.

Parent Signature _____

Please cut out, sign, and return this box to school.