YEHOSHUA

Chapters 13-14

& Vayachel/Pekudei

We are now in the second half of the book of Joshua, and the division of the land is underway. The big battles are over—though there are still other battles to be won—and instructions are now being given regarding which tribe gets which portion of the land west of the Jordan. Joshua's seven years of conquest are over, and he now spends the next seven years dividing up the land between the tribes and families. Before we get there, though, we're recalling the inheritances of Reuben, Gad and Menasseh to the east of the Jordan. Just in case there was any dispute about those lands before those tribes took possession.

Joshua Discussion Questions:

- What would you rather have—an inheritance or a heritage? Why?
- 2. While the Levites weren't given an inheritance in the same way as the rest of the tribes, what is significant about them—as priests—being given places to dwell in each of the tribes' lands?
- 3. What are some of the kinds of battles God expects you to have to fight on your own as you mature in faith?
- 4. In the interaction between Caleb and Joshua, what is being pictured when we think of them as representative of Judah and Joseph? What other parallels can you find?

Vayachel/Pekudei Discussion Questions:

- 5. What examples from the Apostolic Scriptures can you think of wherein one who had fallen very far and who returned was filled with a great love (the idea of the "ba'al teshuvah")?
- 6. What thoughts and feelings are conjured up within you by the idea of the Temple being rebuilt? Do you find yourself experiencing "mixed" emotions? Why or why not?
- 7. What can we do practically to make people with disabilities both feel welcome and be accommodated?

