

Victory in Your Voice

2 Chronicles 20:1-25

Introduction

In 2 Chronicles chapter 20, God's people had a problem. They were overwhelmed by a crisis that they couldn't fix themselves. Their enemies had surrounded them and the situation was out of their control. You may be facing a similar experience wherein life seems to be out of control and in every direction you look, there are no clear cut answers.

In the midst of their crisis, King Jehoshaphat prayed! In this prayer he spoke of God's character, His track record with the Israelites, and the importance of His Word. The king chose to lead the people to focus on God instead of focusing on their crisis. Their prayers were a precursor for receiving a word from the Lord. A prophet spoke to God's people to tell them not to fear and to remind them that the battle was the Lord's. The Israelites received a message of comfort telling them that God was with them and that He would intervene; they would see victory. In these crisis situations, God often lets us hit rock bottom, to show us that He is the rock at the bottom.

After receiving God's word of comfort, the people began to worship and praise the Lord. God acted on their behalf and brought confusion to the enemy that was causing their crisis. In fact, God went before them in battle and the Israelites did not even have to lift a finger against their enemy. Effectively, their praise led to their victory. The key as you and I face various problems, situations, and concerns, is the choice to praise in the middle of what appears to be a problem.

Getting Started

1. The word "overwhelmed" is extremely common these days. So often people describe themselves as being overwhelmed. Are you currently overwhelmed by a crisis? With what? Why?
2. When your load seems too much to bear, how do you typically handle that?

Let's Get Personal

1. When a crisis hits rock bottom that typically means you are out of options and you cannot see a solution ahead. What situation in your life does not seem to have an apparent solution?
2. When facing a grim situation, do you spend more time lamenting about your problem or praising God in spite of your problem? Why is it difficult to praise during a problem?
3. Have you ever faced a problem with no human solution and God came through? Do you think that your praise made a difference? Share your reflections with your group.

Take the Next Step

1. It's easy to praise on Sunday, but what will you do this week, (Monday through Friday) to get into a "praise mode" despite your crisis.
2. If you find that it is typically difficult for you to focus your speech in a positive way, what can you do this week to be more conscience about your tendency to talk about the problem.
3. Pray together with your group and take special care to focus on praise instead of the problems.
4. Want to dive deeper into this topic? Psalm 50:23, Hebrews 13:15, Isaiah 60:18, and Acts 16:22-26.

Renew Your Mind

"Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you."
2 Chronicles 20:17
