

I DON'T DESERVE IT SERIES WEEK 3

THE BATTLE IS THE LORD'S

Introduction

The bottom line of this message was how to let the battle be the Lord's instead of something we fight in our own strength. God's grace means the victory doesn't depend on how good we fight but how completely we let the Lord fight for us.

We want to learn through the story of Jehoshaphat, in 2 Chronicles 20, how to make the switch that puts God between us and the problems instead of the problems between us and God. How do we step back and let the Lord fight our battles? How do we "stand still and see the salvation of the Lord?"

QUESTIONS

1. The difference between us handling the battle and God fighting the battle is the difference between working by the power of our flesh versus moving in the power of the Holy Spirit. Which of the following is a common example of something you feel or do when you are trying to fight your own battles?
 - a. Worry
 - b. Striving- trying to do more than the Holy Spirit is leading you
 - c. Feeling condemned, like I'm a disappointment to God because I'm not good enough
 - d. Becoming demanding or manipulative with people
 - e. Becoming touchy, grumpy or easily offended
 - f. Feeling burned out

2. What is an example of how you know when that switch takes place and the Lord is taking over? Can you give an example of when this has happened in your life?
 - a. Renewed energy and hope (Isaiah 40:31)
 - b. Peace and the ability to leave what I can't fix in God's hands
 - c. A sense that God is speaking to me and showing that He is doing something I wouldn't have thought of
 - d. The ability to work out of rest, sensing God is carrying the heavy part of the load

3. In the story of Jehoshaphat, we see that he made this switch, inviting God into the middle of the situation through focused prayer. What stands out to you about the way he prayed?
 - a. He turned his focus off of how bad things were onto how good God was
 - b. How he united people to pray together and for each other (Job 42:10)
 - c. How he got the family involved and made it a "family altar" moment
 - d. How he admitted powerlessness and told God honestly, "I can't do this", and surrendered to God's purposes. (Romans 8:28)
 - e. How he listened for God to speak

- f. How they praised God and gave thanks and declaration for the victory, before there was evidence that there was any
- 4. Reflect on Romans 8:28 and what the significance of that verse is to this study.
“And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purposes.”
- 5. In what ways did their surrender not only bring deliverance in the problem but for God to be glorified and do more than they could’ve asked or imagined through the problem? Have you ever seen God turn a disaster into a divine appointment? Have you ever found God’s opportunity in your adversity?
- 6. What are some specific things you would like to pray and praise for in this present crisis that invite God to come between you and the problem? What is a way you could imagine and ask God to turn this adversity into opportunity?