

HOW TO PRAY FOR BREAKTHROUGH

(2 Chronicles 20:1—26)

INTRO:

Story of desperation about Yo-Yo Ma!

TRANSITION:

My goal is to remind us, “How to Pray for Breakthrough!”

Jesus: “Anytime you ask for anything in prayer, believe that you *HAVE* received it (present), and you *WILL* receive it (future).” Mark 11:24

Another way to say it...

Thanking God AFTER He gives you something is called *gratitude*.

Thanking God BEFORE He gives it, is called *faith!*

Bible Study—

2 CHRONICLES 20:1-26 (So what is God’s Word saying to us today?)

“After this, 3 enemy nations united to attack King Jehoshaphat. Spies told him, ‘A huge combined army is marching to Jerusalem right now to defeat you!’ Scared and worried, King Jehoshaphat RESOLVED (Passionate, Desperate) TO SEEK THE LORD, and he announced a nationwide fast. So everyone came together to fast and pray and seek help from God.” 2 Chronicles 20:1-4

“Prayer is rebellion against the status quo!” -Tim Keller

Hey friends...we need what the King needed... We need Breakthrough! But how?

1. Focus on God, Not my Problem!

“Jehoshaphat was afraid (now what?), so he set his face to seek the Lord.” 2 Chronicles 20:3a

Sometimes the smallest step in the right direction ends up being the biggest step of your life! Listen, you are (we are) one decision away from a totally different life. –Mark Batterson

The King **focused on God, not his problems!** (Please, say this to the Lord right now!)

“O Lord, ARE YOU NOT the God who is in heaven? (Answer, YES!) You rule over every kingdom and nation. You are so powerful and mighty that nothing and no one can defeat you!” 2 Chronicles 20:6

Famous Pastor said...

WHAT IF...

God is not disappointed in you! Why? Because God is not expecting us to do what only He can do!

You may be thinking...

“But I’ve let you down.” God says, “NOPE, you didn’t let me down, because you were never holding me up!”

We don’t hold God up...He holds us up!

(Airplane Example)

“Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me (No way!)?”

Jeremiah 32:27

3 Reminders...

- **Remind myself of His Unlimited Power.**

“And God, DID YOU NOT drive out those who tried to keep us from living here when you brought us back home (answer: YES!)?” 2 Chronicles 20:7a

- **Remind God of His Promises**

“And also, DID YOU NOT give this promised land to your friend Abraham’s descendants, to be theirs forever (answer: YES!)?” 2 Chronicles 20:7b

Remember to....

- Ask God for a Breakthrough!

“Our enemies want to destroy us. WILL YOU NOT stop them from defeating us?”

2 Chronicles 20:10-12a

I dare you to pursue Breakthrough with me by praying a David Brainard prayer.

“God, let me make a difference for You that is utterly disproportionate to who I am”.

I dare you to be somebody nobody thought you could be!

“Jesus didn’t die to keep us safe. He died to make us dangerous.” –Mark Batterson

1. Focus on God, Not my Problem.
2. Admit-It; “I can’t do this! I need You God!”

“Lord, we are powerless against this mighty army that is coming to attack us and we don’t know what to do BUT we are looking to you for help.” 2 Chronicles 20:12b

First step of “Celebrate Recovery”—

“I realize I’m not God. I admit I’m powerless to control my life”...

(Example: screaming baby)

“So David went to Baal Perazim and defeated the Philistines there. ‘The Lord did it!’ David exclaimed. ‘The Lord burst-through my enemies like raging floodwaters’! So, David named that place Baal Perazim which means, “The Lord who bursts-through”!” 2 Samuel 5:20

(God is the Master of Breakthroughs!)

1. Focus on God, Not my Problem.
2. Admit it—I need You God.

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3. Listen (we'd rather speak) to What God Says.

2 Chron. 20:13 *"As all the men of Judah stood before the Lord..."* (Scholars say this was hours, not minutes!)

"Waiting" is still an act of faith/trust.

"What if"...you have been assigned this (difficulty, obstacle, challenge) "problem mountain" to show others IT CAN BE MOVED!

- If God doesn't use you to be a visual example of the reality of Jesus to those you evangelize...who else is He going to use?

Listen to what God says...

- A) *'Do not be afraid or discouraged...(v15)*
(The odds may be against you, but God is for you!)
- B) *For the battle is not yours, but God's!... You will not need to fight in this battle! (v17)*
- C) *Just take up your position and stand strong! (v17)*
- D) *...wait and watch, and you will see the Lord deliver you! 2 Chronicles 20:15b-18*
 1. Focus on God, Not my Problem.
 2. Admit it—I need You God.
 3. Listen to what God says.

CONCLUSION:

I dare you to not only beg God for a breakthrough but start thanking Him for one!

I dare you to pray David Brainard's prayer—

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“God let me make a difference for You that is utterly disproportionate to who I am.”

- God spoke through one in the O.T.
- Jesus rode on one in the N.T.
- I often am one!!! For this reason, I pray...

“God let me make a difference for You that is utterly disproportionate to who I am.”

I dare you to be somebody NOBODY thought you could be.

Read p.81-82 “All In”