



# THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

## PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

### FACING MONUMENTAL OBSTACLES –

#### Worship in Warfare, P.U.S.H Series – 5B

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The story of King Jehoshaphat shows us how to depend on God in times of crises (2 Chron. 20:1-30). When Jehoshaphat received the threatening news, he called upon the people to seek God’s help. They praised God, sought His direction and obeyed Him. In the same way, when we are faced with problems, then we need to seek help from God.

#### King Jehoshaphat and his people sought help from God when they:

3. **3. PRAISED GOD.** Jehoshaphat began his prayer by recognizing God’s power. They praised before the battle, praised during the battle and praised after the battle. God is pleased when we recognize His goodness.
9. **9. DID NOT FEAR AND WAITED FOR GOD’S DIRECTION.** The people of Judah stood silently before the LORD, waiting for God’s direction. In answer to their prayers, the Lord spoke through Jahaziel (2 Chron. 20:13-17). God assures us that He hears and answers our prayers. He promises to show us great things that we do not know (Jer. 33:3). Hence, it is God’s guidance and direction that will lead us to success
10. **10. HE (Jehoshaphat) INSPIRED THE PEOPLE.** Jehoshaphat was a good king who sought to follow the Lord. He encouraged his people to have a firm faith in God. In the same way, we should keep the company of people who can inspire us in our spiritual journey.
11. **11. THE PEOPLE OBEYED.** After hearing God’s direction through Jahaziel, the people obeyed. It was one thing to profess faith; it was another to actually walk out to meet the enemy at the place God said. Likewise, we need to “be doers of the word, and not hearers only” (Jas. 1:22).
12. **12. FOLLOWED GOD’S UNUSUAL INSTRUCTIONS.** As per God’s direction, King Jehoshaphat appointed minstrels to lead the army. This may seem strange, considering that they were going to a battle. Yet,

the people obeyed. We, too, may sometimes be faced with unusual directions from the Lord. It is important that we take courage and just obey.

13. **13. GAVE THANKS AND PRAISED THE LORD.** When the battle had been won, Jehoshaphat and the people assembled and praised and thanked the Lord. We, too, should never forget to be thankful in all circumstances ( 1 Thes. 5: 18).

#### On our end, we should

14. **14. KNOW GOD IN A PERSONAL WAY.** How we perceive God reflects how we respond to Him. If we still doubt Him, we need to know Him better by spending time with Him in prayer and in studying the Bible.
15. **15. TRUST GOD.** We should trust in the Lord and not on our own understanding (Prov. 3:5-6). If we know Him, we will trust Him because He is a Promise Keeper.
16. **16. BELIEVE IN GOD’S PROMISE AND BE STILL.** We need not panic or worry when we encounter difficult situations but we must have faith in Him (Ps.46:10).
17. **17. EXPECT TO WIN THE BATTLE.** God is always in control. If we follow Him, we will succeed.

#### Essential Ingredients in Jehoshaphat’s Prayer:

1. He acknowledged God who could save the nation.
2. He sought God’s favor because his people were God’s people and recognized God’s sovereignty over the current situation.
3. He praised God’s glory and took comfort in His promises and professed complete dependence on God for deliverance.

**CONCLUSION:** Just as God cared and fought for the men of Judah, God cares for us too. When faced with challenges in life, we need to turn to Him and seek Him. We need to focus on God’s power and love. God will never fail His children who seek His help.

**REFLECTION:** Recall a situation when you were at a loss. How did you handle it?

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