

The End of Me Bible Study Series

MMBC

#3 Relinquish the Need for Control

January 24, 2018

Review Lesson #2 Trust Me!

Discuss the quote:

“You must learn to let go. Release the stress. You were never in control anyway.” Steve Maraboli

Are you a control freak? Do you strive to **make** things happen rather than allowing them to happen?

Dr. Amy Johnson, psychologist and life coach, suggests the following:

- We try to control things because of what we think will happen if we don't.
- Control is also a result of being attached to a specific outcome—an outcome we're sure is best for us, as if we always know what's best.
- The energy of surrender accomplishes much more than the energy of control.

In our text: Read 2 Chronicles 20:17, “Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.”

How difficult is it for you to stand still?

Here's the Procedure (God's Way) Read verse 20:3.

Their Predicament

The background:

Judah was invaded by a multitude of armies. They were outnumbered. There was no chance they could win on their own. There were no human solutions. They were terrified and their army was weak!

Discuss your “seemingly” outnumbered predicament. What's making you want to throw in the towel?

What lessons can we learn from Jehoshaphat's actions?

1. _____
2. _____

Notice. He prayed for God's direction and he fasted. All too often, we try to solve our issues on our own. Only when we can't do it, we find ourselves reaching out to God. God wants us to reach out to him first! How many times has your plan failed?

What does the enemy want you to do? He wants you to panic, lose it, give up, and throw in the towel? You don't have too!

Read Jehoshaphat's acknowledgement in verse 6. Who did he acknowledge was in control?

We know God was in control prior to his acknowledgement. However, what does it say to God when we finally admit it?

Read verse 6. Jehoshaphat also acknowledged this problem was beyond his control. He is clearly relinquishing the entire matter to God.

Are you ready to claim God's promises? Notice he reminded God of His promise made to Abraham. (verse 7)

What is he doing to God?

What do we do when we remind God of His promises?

Receive the Word from the Lord!

Listen to the Word:

20:15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.

Hearkened means to listen! This Word is from the Lord. Don't be afraid by what you see or how many you see. The battle is not yours, but God's.

Wow!

What do we learn from Jehoshaphat? Clearly, crises will come! What do we do in a crisis? Trust God and let Him control the situation. We can be confident in the crisis if we turn it over to God! Give it to Him!

Message on a T-Shirt.... A popular T-shirt reads, "Bottom of the ninth, down by three runs, bases loaded, two outs, full count--No Fear!"