

# DESPERATE FOR GOD TO MOVE

Today, we will consider what it means to be "Desperate for God in the Midst of Uncertainty." There's something about uncertainty that drives us to desperation. We don't know how the future will turn out. We don't know how our kids will turn out, how our careers will turn out, how our money will shake out, and a million other things that we don't know – and all of these things have the potential to drive us to desperation. To be desperate means to be in "a state of despair, typically one which results in rash or extreme behavior." Have you ever been there? In today's study, we'll explore some key lessons from 2 Chronicles 20, focusing on the story of King Jehoshaphat and his response to overwhelming uncertainty. We'll discover how desperation and fear drove the king to seek God wholeheartedly.

**Key Passage:** 2 Chronicles 20

## Discussion Questions:

1. How do you typically respond to bad news? How does your response compare to King Jehoshaphat's when hearing the news of the impending attack? What does his response teach us about handling fear and uncertainty?

King Jehoshaphat reacts with fear but immediately "sets his face to seek the Lord" and calls for a nationwide fast. This teaches us that in times of fear and uncertainty, our first response should be to pray to God and seek His guidance.

2. What role does fasting play in the story? What role can fasting play in our lives during times of uncertainty? How has God used this spiritual discipline in your life during seasons of uncertainty?

Fasting is a significant act of humility and dependence on God. It signifies the people's earnestness in seeking God's help, demonstrating that believers should focus on spiritual disciplines to draw closer to God in times of uncertainty.

3. In 2 Chronicles 20:12, what is the key phrase at the heart of this chapter? What does it mean for us today?

The key phrase is, "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you." This means that when believers face situations where they are unsure of the next step, they should fix their gaze on God, trusting Him to guide them through the uncertainty.

4. How should the message "The battle is not yours, but God's" encourage us during difficult times?

This message reassures believers that they are not alone in their struggles. God is the one who fights their battles, and they are called to stand firm in faith, trusting in God's power rather than their own efforts.

5. Why is worship emphasized as a response to uncertainty? How did it impact the outcome of the battle in 2 Chronicles 20? How often is worship something you turn to when facing uncertainty?

Worship is emphasized because it shifts the focus from the problem to God's sovereignty. In the story, as the people worshipped, God moved on their behalf, confusing the enemy armies and bringing victory without the Israelites having to fight. Worship is portrayed as a powerful act of faith that invites God's intervention.

6. What does it mean that faith and doubt are contagious? How should this reality influence our actions in uncertain times?

Both faith and doubt can spread quickly among people. As such, we are encouraged to be leaders who inspire faith rather than doubt, especially in times of uncertainty. This means setting an example by trusting God and encouraging others to do the same.

7. How does "lifting your eyes to God" relate to practical steps believers can take when facing uncertainty?

"Lifting your eyes to God" involves consciously turning to God in prayer, worship, and dependence. Practically, this means prioritizing spiritual practices like reading Scripture, praying, and worshipping to maintain a focus on God's power and presence rather than being overwhelmed by circumstances.

8. What about this lesson challenged you the most? What was your biggest takeaway?