

## What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do as presented by Mary Lowman

### 2 Chronicles 20:1 – 4

After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to make war on Jehoshaphat. Some men came and told Jehoshaphat, "A vast army is coming against you from Edom, from the other side of the Seas. It is already in En Gedi." Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah. The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord; indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him.

### 2 Chronicles 20:5 – 12

"Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem at the temple of the Lord in the front of the new courtyard and said:

'O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you. O our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend? They have lived in it and have built in it a sanctuary for your Name, saying, "If calamity comes upon us, whether the sword of judgment, or plague or famine, we will stand in your presence before this temple that bears your Name and will cry out to you in our distress, and you will hear us and save us."

'But now, here are men from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, whose territory you would not allow Israel to invade when they came from Egypt; so they turned away from them and did not destroy them. See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance. O our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you.'"

### 2 Chronicles 20:15, 17

"Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's...Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you."

Seven R's that tell us what to do when we don't know what to do:

1. **Recite** who God is

O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you.

2. **Remember** God's great works

O our God, did you not drive out the inhabitants of this land before your people Israel and give it forever to the descendants of Abraham your friend?

3. **Recall** God's promises

If calamity comes upon us...we will stand in your presence before this temple that bears your Name and will cry out to you in our distress, and you will hear us and save us.

4. **Restate** the problem to God

"But now here are men from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, whose territory you would not allow Israel to invade when they came from Egypt; so they turned away from them and did not destroy them. See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance. O our God, will you not judge them? For we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us."

5. **Release** the problem to God

"We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you."

6. **Rejoice** in God's salvation

After his prayer, a prophet rose up and said, "Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's...Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Go out to face them tomorrow, and the Lord will be with you."

7. **Rest** in the Lord

2 Chronicles 20: 30: "And the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side."