

What to do when the odds are against you

Proverbs 3:5-6; 2 Chronicles 20:1-30

Introduction: Last week we learned from James 1:12 how to turn a battle into a blessing and a trial into a triumph. We looked on the other side of a trial and rejoiced in the victory. Today I want to think biblically about God being with us in the eye of the storm.

Three negative responses to being overwhelmed:

1. Denial: It's not really happening.
2. Deception: I'm not really lost
3. Diversion: I just need something to ease my pain

God's winning approach to overcome trials (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Three important steps:

1. Complete trust
2. Complete openness
3. Complete obedience

Steps Jehoshaphat took to face overwhelming odds. (2 Chron. 20:1-30)

1. Jehoshaphat turned to God in prayer and invited others to join him. (vs. 3, 4)
2. Jehoshaphat remembered God's character and works. (vs. 6, 7)
3. Jehoshaphat admitted his weakness and lack of understanding. (vs. 12)
4. Jehoshaphat left the final outcome in God's hands. (vs. 14-22)

Conclusion: Your survival kit

1. Turn to God in prayer.
2. Think on God's character and works.
3. Take your hand off the wheel.
4. Tend to living in obedience to God.
5. Trust God with the final outcome.