

Write down one thing that fits each category in verse 8:

*Spend time thanking God specifically for those things.*

## Saturday

*Please spend time praying for the coming Grace Immersion series (see the prayer handout for details).  
Read through the extra verse cards again. Thank God for His love to you!*



# BREAKTHROUGH

WEEK 2

## Against Overwhelming Odds

September 4 & 5, 2010 • René Schläepfer

### What battles are you facing where the odds seem against you?

- Business problems
- Delays
- Debilitating illness
- Relentless enemies
- Bankruptcy
- Seemingly unanswered prayers
- Loneliness
- Bitterness

### Five lessons from 2 Chronicles 20

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_

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 Sea. It is already in Hazazon Tamar" (that is, En Gedi). *vv. 1–2*

Many times the enemy is not my \_\_\_\_\_ but my \_\_\_\_\_

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the LORD. . . indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him. *vv. 3a, 4b*

- Remember God's \_\_\_\_\_

"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." *v. 6*

- Remember God's deeds in the \_\_\_\_\_

"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?" *v. 7*

- Tell God the \_\_\_\_\_

"But now here are men from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, whose territory you would not allow Israel to invade. . . See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out. . ." *vv. 10–11*

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
“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.” *v. 12*

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
[God answers. . .] “**Do not be afraid or discouraged** because of this vast army. For **the battle is not yours, but God’s**. . . You will not have to fight this battle. Take up your positions; **stand firm** and see the deliverance the LORD will give you, O Judah and Jerusalem. **Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged**. Go out to face them tomorrow, and **the LORD will be with you.**” *vv. 15b,17*

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to sing to the LORD and to praise him for the splendor of his holiness as they went out at the head of the army, saying: “Give thanks to the LORD, for his love endures forever.” *v. 21*

The rest of the story: 2 Chronicles 20:22–30

**The big idea:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Coming soon:

**GRACE**  
IMMERSION

- 50 days throughout October and November
- Host homes needed! Sign up online at [www.tlc.org/smallgroupleaders](http://www.tlc.org/smallgroupleaders) or in the lobby today!
- Volunteers for sign-up week needed! Email [val@tlc.org](mailto:val@tlc.org)

## Daily Meditations

*Spend some time each day this week meditating on the topic*

### Monday


Read 2 Chronicles 20:1–30. What lessons can you apply to your own life from this story?

What points from the weekend message really rang true for you?

*The first point this weekend was identifying my enemy. Bring to God in prayer today, very specifically, enemies against which you struggle. Be sure to include your own attitude and responses as potential “enemies” you face.*

### Tuesday

The second point this weekend: Take it to God. Most of Jehoshaphat’s prayer in 2 Chronicles 20 was focused not on his fears but on God’s power and past deeds. Read through the extra verses handed out this weekend as a focus on God’s power. Write down at least three specific ways God has helped you in the past. Then go to prayer. . .

continued 

*First pray through the verse cards handed out last weekend, thanking God for His power. Then thank God specifically for at least three things he has done for you in the past. Then bring to him your specific problem or worry. Thank Him in advance for His answer!*

### Wednesday

Our third point this week: Admit my inadequacy. Read Psalm 57 and 142. These psalms were both written by David when he was literally living in a cave, hiding from the murderous King Saul and his army. David, who had slain Goliath and many other foes, now admits he is powerless against this threat. What promises about God does David cling to in these Psalms?

Notice that in Psalm 57, David briefly lists his troubles and then spends the rest of the psalm meditating on God. How can you apply this to your life right now?

*Spend time in prayer telling God about the areas you feel powerless over. Then dwell on His greatness.*

### Thursday

Today let’s discuss our fourth point, relaxing in faith. Read Psalm 27. List the actions the psalmist describes himself as taking, though he describes himself as surrounded by an army:

What do you learn from this psalm about relaxing in faith?

List three things that encourage you from this psalm:

*Relax in faith even as you pray today. Pray through this psalm and Jehoshaphat’s prayer in 2 Chronicles 20, personalizing them to be your own.*

### Friday

How do I live in gratitude, our final point from last weekend? Read Philippians 4:4–9. These may be familiar verses to you, but their impact is sharpened when you remember the context in which they were written: The Apostle Paul was in a Roman prison, awaiting execution! Yet he writes with unmatched serenity and joy. Write out the things Paul says we are to think about:

Do you tend to dwell on these things?  
If not, toward what sorts of things does your focus drift? Why?



This is what the LORD says to you: “Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God’s.” *2 Chronicles 20:15b*

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