"YOU DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT THIS BATTLE!" GOD

Picture this: King Jehoshaphat looked out on 3 armies about to attack his kingdom. Immediately he turned to the Lord by calling his people to fast and pray. God rewarded their fasting and prayer with this answer:

"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."

God caused a very unique victory where Jehoshaphat's army didn't have to lift a finger. Read the story of miraculous deliverance for yourself in 2 Chronicles 20:1-30.

Here are a few key principles we can learn from this story:

- 1. **God is interested in your problem**: if you are His child, the Father is interested in helping you overcome anything that is discouraging or defeating you.
- 2. **God is greater than your problem**: Jeremiah 32:27 "I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for Me?"
- 3. Our <u>first</u> response should be to seek the Lord: in times of crisis do we immediately stop and pray? When we do, we allow God to put the challenge in perspective (our feelings often cause wrong perspectives). The second step should be to tell a godly, trustworthy friend to intercede on your behalf.
- 4. **God will provide a solution to your problem**: the answer will come! The Father will sometimes delay answering prayers because He wants to develop in us greater spiritual maturity. He is more interested in our character than our comfort.
- 5. Our prayers should be God-centered....not problem centered: do you tend to focus on the problem when you pray? Choose to focus on the Father's love and your problem will seem smaller and less frightening.
- 6. **God's solution is always best**: the Lord knows every intimate detail of any situation including the personality and past of each person involved. If we are willing to trust in our heavenly Father, we will discover the best solution possible.

Do you think God is interested in your trials? Do you believe He's able to help you overcome any problem? Surrender to Him completely, focusing on His awesome power and faithfulness to provide.... in His timing. In God's hands, your problems aren't roadblocks but opportunities to develop a more intimate and dynamic relationship with Him.