**Jehoshaphat: Fulfilling Your Potential**

2 Chronicles 17-20

**2 Chronicles 20:29 (ESV)**And the fear of God came on all the kingdoms of the countries when they heard that the Lord had fought against the enemies of Israel.

**2 Chronicles 20:30 (ESV)**So the realm of Jehoshaphat was quiet, for his God gave him rest all around.

[History section]

**2 Chronicles 17:1 (ESV)**Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place and strengthened himself against Israel.

[Story section]

**Six priorities for reaching your fullest potential …**

1. **Follow the right examples.**

**2 Chronicles 17:3 (ESV)**The Lord was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the earlier ways of his father David. He did not seek the Baals,

**2 Chronicles 17:4 (ESV)**but sought the God of his father and walked in His commandments, and not according to the practices of Israel.

**2 Chronicles 17:5 (ESV)**Therefore the Lord established the kingdom in his hand. And all Judah brought tribute to Jehoshaphat, and he had great riches and honor.

1. **Devote yourself to God alone.**

**2 Chronicles 17:6 (ESV)**His heart was courageous in the ways of the Lord. And furthermore, he took the high places and the Asherim out of Judah.

**2 Chronicles 17:7 (ESV)**In the third year of his reign he sent his officials, Ben-hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel, and Micaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah;

**2 Chronicles 17:9 (ESV)**And they taught in Judah, having the Book of the Law of the Lord with them. They went about through all the cities of Judah and taught among the people.

1. **Guard your alliances.**

**2 Chronicles 18:1 (ESV)**Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor, and he made a marriage alliance with Ahab.

**2 Chronicles 18:2 (ESV)**After some years he went down to Ahab in Samaria. And Ahab killed an abundance of sheep and oxen for him and for the people who were with him, and induced him to go up against Ramoth-gilead.

**2 Chronicles 18:3 (ESV)**Ahab king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat king of Judah, “Will you go with me to Ramoth-gilead?” He answered him, “I am as you are, my people as your people. We will be with you in the war.”

**2 Chronicles 18:4 (ESV)**And Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel, “Inquire first for the word of the Lord.”

**2 Chronicles 18:28 (ESV)**So the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah went up to Ramoth-gilead.

**2 Chronicles 18:29 (ESV)**And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, “I will disguise myself and go into battle, but you wear your robes.” And the king of Israel disguised himself, and they went into battle.

**2 Chronicles 18:30 (ESV)**Now the king of Syria had commanded the captains of his chariots, “Fight with neither small nor great, but only with the king of Israel.”

**2 Chronicles 18:31 (ESV)**As soon as the captains of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they said, “It is the king of Israel.” So they turned to fight against him. And Jehoshaphat cried out, and the Lord helped him; God drew them away from him.

1. **Receive God’s correction.**

**2 Chronicles 19:1 (ESV)**Jehoshaphat the king of Judah returned in safety to his house in Jerusalem.

**2 Chronicles 19:2 (ESV)**But Jehu the son of Hanani the seer went out to meet him and said to King Jehoshaphat, “Should you help the wicked and love those who hate the Lord? Because of this, wrath has gone out against you from the Lord.

**2 Chronicles 19:3 (ESV)**Nevertheless, some good is found in you, for you destroyed the Asheroth out of the land, and have set your heart to seek God.”

**2 Chronicles 19:4 (ESV)**Jehoshaphat lived at Jerusalem. And he went out again among the people, from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim, and brought them back to the Lord, the God of their fathers.

1. **Live by prayer.**

**2 Chronicles 20:5 (ESV)**And Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court,

**2 Chronicles 20:6 (ESV)**and said, “O Lord, God of our fathers, are you not God in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In Your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand You.

**2 Chronicles 20:12 (ESV)**O our God, will You not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on You.”

1. **Fill your life with praise.**

**2 Chronicles 20:21 (ESV)**And when he had taken counsel with the people, he appointed those who were to sing to the Lord and praise Him in holy attire, as they went before the army, and say, “Give thanks to the Lord, for His steadfast love endures forever.”

**2 Chronicles 20:22 (ESV)**And when they began to sing and praise, the Lord set an ambush against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, so that they were routed.

**2 Chronicles 20:23 (ESV)**For the men of Ammon and Moab rose against the inhabitants of Mount Seir, devoting them to destruction, and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, they all helped to destroy one another.

**2 Chronicles 20:27 (ESV)**Then they returned, every man of Judah and Jerusalem, and Jehoshaphat at their head, returning to Jerusalem with joy, for the Lord had made them rejoice over their enemies.

**2 Chronicles 20:28 (ESV)**They came to Jerusalem with harps and lyres and trumpets, to the house of the Lord.

[Connection section]

**Isaiah 54:17 (ESV)**No weapon that is fashioned against you shall succeed, and you shall refute every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from Me, declares the Lord.”

**When you simply serve the Lord, He will fulfill your potential!**

[Cross section]

**2 Corinthians 1:20 (ESV)**For all the promises of God find their Yes in Him. That is why it is through Him that we utter our Amen to God for His glory.