

If My People Part 2—Powerless
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USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon
and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group.
For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is not to get through the
questions, but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships.
Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Joel 2:15]

Blow the ram's horn in Zion!

***Announce a time of fasting;
and call the people together
for a sacred assembly.***

God has much for you than you have walked into yet!

***There is an appropriate time to be powerless; You can position yourself in
weakness to receive power under the mighty hand of God.***

[2 Corinthians 12:9-10]

***Each time he said, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in
weakness." So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the
power of Christ can work through me. That's why I take pleasure in my
weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that
I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.***

"my weakness becomes a portal to God's power" (TPT)

[2 Chronicles 20:1-4]

After this, the armies of the Moabites, Ammonites, and some of the Meunites declared war on Jehoshaphat. Messengers came and told Jehoshaphat, “A vast army from Edom is marching against you from beyond the Dead Sea. They are already at Hazazon-tamar.” (This was another name for En-gedi.) Jehoshaphat was terrified by this news and begged the LORD for guidance. He also ordered everyone in Judah to begin fasting. So people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem to seek the LORD’s help.

1. Respond to the call to seek the Lord’s help.

¹³ As all the men of Judah stood before the LORD with their little ones, wives, and children, then the Spirit of the LORD came....

[2 Chronicles 20:5-8]

Jehoshaphat stood before the community of Judah and Jerusalem in front of the new courtyard at the Temple of the LORD. ⁶ He prayed, “O LORD, God of our ancestors, you alone are the God who is in heaven. You are ruler of all the kingdoms of the earth. You are powerful and mighty; no one can stand against you! ⁷ O our God, did you not drive out those who lived in this land when your people Israel arrived? And did you not give this land forever to the descendants of your friend Abraham? ⁸ Your people settled here and built this Temple to honor your name.

2. Recall God’s power and Remind Him of His promises.

When you remember all the things that God has done and you mind Him, it’s actually a form of intercession.

3. Recognize you are powerless.

When you get past yourself and you’ve run out of resources, you release you are powerless. In your brokenness, simply call out to Him and make this declaration, “I don’t know what to do, but my eyes are on You!”

[2 Chronicles 20:11-12]

...they have come to throw us out of your land, which you gave us as an inheritance. ¹² O our God, won't you stop them? We are powerless against this mighty army that is about to attack us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you."

[2 Chronicles 20:14-18]

¹⁴ the Spirit of the LORD came upon one of the men standing there. His name was Jahaziel son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite who was a descendant of Asaph.

¹⁵ He said, "Listen, all you people of Judah and Jerusalem! Listen, King Jehoshaphat! This is what the LORD says: Do not be afraid! Don't be discouraged by this mighty army, for the battle is not yours, but God's. ¹⁶ Tomorrow, march out against them. You will find them coming up through the ascent of Ziz at the end of the valley that opens into the wilderness of Jeruel. ¹⁷ But you will not even need to fight. Take your positions; then stand still and watch the LORD's victory. He is with you, O people of Judah and Jerusalem. Do not be afraid or discouraged. Go out against them tomorrow, for the LORD is with you!"

Don't underestimate the gifts of the Spirit!

There's no substitute for subduing your flesh, for submitting to the Lord!

4. Receive and take action of the God-Given strategy.

'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.'

FOR MONDAY—

1. Ask the Lord how you should engage in this fast.

2. Set aside more time to pursue God and seek His heart for you and for our nation.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. When have you found yourself in a predicament in which you couldn't get out on your own? What did that experience teach you?
2. When is the appropriate time to be powerless? What does it look like to position yourself in weakness?
3. Why do you think so many people live at a low-level of power when there's so much more available?
4. In 2 Corinthians 12, we hear about the all-sufficient grace that is "made perfect in our weakness." How does God's work in our weakness reach others?
5. Who are some folks that you trust in key times to speak wisdom to your situation?
6. How does recalling God's power and reminding Him of His promises function as intercession, as well?
7. What can happen when the Word of the Lord comes over your life? What must we do with the God-given strategy?
8. Where are you hoping Jesus takes you through this fast?