

God's not finished

2 Chronicles 20

Key Points:

- Our lives are a story. Occasionally it can feel like our stories get stuck, for a whole variety of reasons - hurt, fear, hopelessness, loss, shame etc. - but often when we're faced with difficult situations. But God's not finished, He's still writing a story through you.
- Jehoshaphat was an ancestor of Jesus (Mat 1.8), a great-great grandson of Solomon and a King of Judah. He was one of the good ones - bringing reform and faith to God's people. He had a good story, but when disaster strikes he's faced with the impossible situation of practically all Judah's neighbours rising against them with armies.
- Jehoshaphat doesn't panic or give up, but neither does he just try to 'get on with it'. 1. He's completely **honest** with God (v.12), 2. He **looks** to God (v.12), 3. He **listens** to God (v.15-17), 4. He **worships** God (v.18), 5. He's **believes** that God isn't finished (v.20-21). God reminds Jehoshaphat that it's His battle, that He is the author of the story, and that the story isn't finished. The same is true for us.

Questions: (Read 2 Chronicles 20 first)

1. What's your favourite story of all time?
2. Jehoshaphat's story was stalled when his neighbours declared war (v.1). What situations or events affect our stories?
3. God's direction to Jehoshaphat was to stand still and simply watch the Lord's victory (v.17) in light of His revelation in v.15. Why do you think Jehoshaphat did this? Could you do that?
4. Why can it be so difficult to be honest about our struggles with God and with other people?
5. How do you listen to God?
6. In v.18 and v.21 Jehoshaphat & the people of Judah worship God before anything has happened or changed. Why is it important to worship God in faith rather just as a response to what He's done?
7. Where is your story stuck? How might Jehoshaphat's story influence yours?

Start praying

8. God, whatever we're faced with at the moment we echo Jehoshaphat's prayer - We are powerless, we do not know what to do, but we are looking to you for help. Help me remember and trust that You are the author and my story isn't finished. Amen.

Start doing

9. Take a moment now, and carry on during this week intentionally being honest with God - especially where you feel powerless, stuck or down - and making time to listen to Him.
10. Think of someone you know who's story is stuck. How might you encourage them during this week?