



2 Chronicles 20: 5-13 Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem at the temple of the Lord in the front of the new courtyard and said:

"Lord, the God of our ancestors, 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. 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? They

have lived in it and have built in it a sanctuary for your Name, saying, '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.'

"But now here are men from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, whose territory you would not allow Israel to invade when they came from Egypt; so they turned away from them and did not destroy them. See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance. 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 on you." All the men of Judah, with their wives and children and little ones, stood there before the Lord.

Icebreaker

You are a boxer or MMA fighter entering the ring... what would your theme song be?

Conversation Starters

- 1) Jeff said we've been taught things like "when the going gets tough the tough get going" and "don't give up, don't ever give up." That last one was a quote from NC State Basketball Coach Jimmy Valvano and has become the slogan for cancer patients around the world.
 - a) **What other quotes or sayings did your parents or pop culture pass on that you recall in the midst of tough times?** (i.e. "Nothing is over until we decide it is. Was it over when the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor? Hell No. And it ain't over now" (Blues Brothers)).
- 2) When you face a big challenge is your first instinct fight or flight? What do you do?
- 3) When you think of surrender, what comes to mind? Jeff said surrender is saying, "God I yield to your authority and your power in my life and in our world." How do you finish the sentence, Surrender is? What might your prayer of surrender include?
- 4) How would a prayer of surrender become an acceptable, even preferable option when faced with overwhelming challenges? What would have to change in your heart or mind? How could your emotions alert you that it is time to pray? Anger, fear, anxiety, joy, regret, shame?

Read 2 Chronicles 2-13

- 5) Surrender isn't the same as giving up. It is the beginning of our life with God. What is required of you to pray a prayer of surrender? What is one area of your life you might surrender to God this week?
- 6) What would a life surrendered to God's plan look like?