

Overwhelmed?-Take Three!
(Sermon Outline for 11 Chron. 20)

I. Feeling overwhelmed? We can learn an alternative way to face life's challenges and uncertainties. It is found in the story recorded in 11Chronicles 20.

A. Jehoshaphat, the king of the Israelites, realized his little nation was up against the odds; three enemy nations against one. (vs.1)

-There is a lesson for us in this story about how to win over overwhelming odds. –Valuable lessons for now and the future.

II. The lesson in four words: **TURN TO GOD FIRST.**

A. Prayer needs to be our first choice, not our last resort.

B. 11 Chron. 20:3 “after this” After what? In 11 Chron. 19 it records that Israel had a national revival and reformation.

1. With every blessing eventually there will come a test.

2. Test day came and verse 3 shares his first reaction:

“And Jehoshaphat feared”

-Our real problem is not that we are afraid. Our real problem is what we do with our fears.

-Don't give up! Do as Jehoshaphat did. (Read vs. 3, 4)

C. When the odds are stacked against us there is a certain way we need to pray that is different from the way we would normally pray. (Read vs. 6-9):

OVERWHELMED? TAKE THREE!

1. Remind myself of who God is (vs. 6).

2. Remind myself about what God has done in the past, for me and others (vs. 7, 12).

3. Bring to God His promises and pray through them (vs. 8, 9).

III. “Temptations often appear irresistible because, through neglect of prayer and the study of the Bible, the tempted one cannot readily remember God's promises and meet Satan with Scripture weapons. But angels are round about those who are willing to be taught in divine things; and in the time of great necessity they will bring to their remembrance the very truths which are needed.”

G.C. 600)