

Ice Breakers

- Are you a prepared person?
- What in life do you like to be prepared for?
- Share a time you felt unprepared.



READ 2 Chronicles 20:1-2

- What was the king of Israel about to face?
- Are tough times unavoidable for you and me?

READ 2 Chronicles 20:3

NOTE: Jehoshaphat was "alarmed." Alarmed means "anxious awareness of danger."

- Have you ever been alarmed? Share.
- Do you react or respond to alarming people or situations?

7 Right Responses to Tough Times

1. Respond by PRAYING.

READ 2 Chronicles 20:3,6

- What does it mean he "inquired of the Lord"?
- Is your first response to tough times to pray?
- 2. Respond by FASTING.
- Why fast?

NOTE: Fasting without prayer is a diet!

3. Respond by STANDING TOGETHER.

READ 2 Chronicles 20:4

- They "came together."
- Is your tendency to isolate yourself or lean on others during tough times?
- 4. Respond by STANDING in His PRESENCE.

READ 2 Chronicles 20:9

What was the king saying here?

- Do you stand in His presence?
- Is His presence in you?
- How should His presence affect your tough time?
- 5. Respond by STANDING your GROUND.

READ 2 Chronicles 20:17

- Do you fight your battles or do you let God fight them for you?
- Do you tend to hide and run from your tough times? What should you do?
- 6. Respond in HUMILITY.

READ 2 Chronicles 20:18

- What was the king's response?
- What did all of Israel do?
- Could your humility affect those around you?
- 7. Respond by PRAISING.

NOTE: God inhabits the praise of His people!

READ 2 Chronicles 20:19

- This was BEFORE the battle.
- Do you praise God before the tough times come?

READ 2 Chronicles 20:22

- This is **DURING** the battle.
- Do you praise God during the tough times? Is it difficult?

READ 2 Chronicles 20:26

- This is AFTER the battle.
- Do you praise God after your tough time is over?
- Is praise to be expressed <u>ALL</u> the time?

Application

 Practice prayer & praise right now. It doesn't matter what you are dealing with today. Prayer and praise is to be expressed daily.