

What Does God Want? 2 Chronicles 17 – 20 · Jehoshaphat

God wants our personal commitment to Christ. 2 Chronicles 17:3

“The LORD was with Jehoshaphat because he followed the example of his father David’s earlier days...”

Signs of True Commitment:

- **When I remove any unholy alliances in my life.** 2 Chronicles 17:3, 6
“Jehoshaphat...did not seek the Baals.”
1 Corinthians 5:9-13
- **When I pursue God’s Word and righteousness in my life.** 2 Chronicles 17:4-6
“...but sought the God of his father, followed His commandments, and did not act as Israel did.... So the LORD established the kingdom in his control...He took great pride in the ways of the Lord...”

Established =

2 Timothy 3:16-17

- **When my life influences others because of God’s work in mine.** 2 Chronicles 17:10
“Now the dread of the LORD was on all the kingdoms of the lands which were around Judah, so that they did not make war against Jehoshaphat.”

Dread =

2 Corinthians 2:14-17

God wants us to avoid spiritual compromise.

Signs of Compromise:

- **When I allow myself to be influenced by unholy alliances.** 2 Chronicles 18:1-3; 19:7
“Now Jehoshaphat had great riches and honor; and he allied himself by marriage with Ahab.”
- **When I fail to discern the deception and distortion of God’s Word.** 2 Chronicles 18:4-27
 - I seek people who tell me what I want to hear.
 - I am intolerant and reject those who speak God’s truth.
 - I dismiss the idea of a spiritual battle against me.
- **When I make bad and stupid decisions that lead to terrible consequences.** 2 Chronicles 18:28-34
*“The king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, ‘I will disguise myself and go into battle, but you put on your robes.’
... and they went into battle.”*

God wants to forgive our failures and renew our relationship with Him. 2 Chronicles 19-20

*“But there is some good in you, for you have removed the Asheroth from the land and you have set your heart to seek God.’
So Jehoshaphat lived in Jerusalem and went out again among the people from Beersheba to the hill country of Ephraim and brought them back to the LORD, the God of their fathers.” 2 Chronicles 19:3-4*

Signs of Renewal:

- **When problems and conflicts overwhelm you, prayerfully seek the Lord first, not the problems.** 2 Chron. 20:1-4, 15, 17
“Jehoshaphat was afraid and turned his attention to seek the LORD, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah... vs. 15 and he said, ‘Listen, all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: thus says the LORD to you, ‘Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God’s.’”
- **When you humble yourself in a worshipful trust and praise to God.** 2 Chronicles 20:18-19
“Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell down before the LORD, worshipping the LORD.”
 - **Worship strengthens your trust in the Lord’s great power.** 2 Chronicles 20:20–21
“Listen to me, O Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, put your trust in the LORD your God and you will be established. Put your trust in His prophets and succeed.” When he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who sang to the LORD and those who praised Him in holy attire, as they went out before the army and said, ‘Give thanks to the LORD, for His lovingkindness is everlasting.’”
 - **Worship helps you overcome any attacks against you.** 2 Chronicles 20:22
“When they began singing and praising, the LORD set ambushes against the sons of Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; so they were routed.”
 - **Worship stirs a heart of joy and testimony of our great God to others.** 2 Chronicles 20:27-29
“Every man of Judah and Jerusalem returned with Jehoshaphat at their head, returning to Jerusalem with joy, for the LORD had made them to rejoice over their enemies. They came to Jerusalem with harps, lyres and trumpets to the house of the LORD. And the dread of God was on all the kingdoms of the lands when they heard that the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel.”

LIFEGROUP DISCUSSION:

Read 2 Chronicles 17 and note how God established a good life for Jehoshaphat as he committed his life to God’s Word and righteousness. This does not guarantee we won’t have problems, but we are assured of God’s presence and power to help us.

Discuss how the following scriptures can establish positive things in your life.

- Psalm 112:7 - How is your heart improved?
- Psalm 37:23 - How is the purpose of your life improved?
- Psalm 90:17 - How does new confidence improve?
- Proverbs 16:9 - How does assurance of doing God’s will improve?
- How would marriages improve if both spouses lived by Ephesians 5:21-33?
- How would the work place improve if all obeyed Ephesians 6:5-9?
- How would friendships improve if both people lived according to Ephesians 5:25-32?
- How would our churches improve if all members lived by Ephesians 4:14-16?
- How would our hearts and lives improve if we lived by Philippians 4:6-9?

NEXT STEPS:

1. **Come receive prayer during or after the service at a Prayer Point to fully surrender to Jesus as the King of your life.**
For more information on discovering Jesus and salvation through Him, visit calvarylife.org/jesus
2. **Join a LifeGroup to connect with other people who are seeking the Lord.** LifeGroups are the primary place, beyond Sunday worship, where we actively engage in the life and purpose of our church: to connect, grow, and reach. LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW together in our faith, and REACH out together to our community. Find out more about LifeGroups by visiting Connection Point Central in the Lobby or at calvarylife.org/lifegroups
3. **Be faithful in joining for worship because it joyfully strengthens your walk with Christ.**
Come back next Sunday at 9:00 or 11:00 am as we continue to worship together. calvarylife.org/sundays



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1010 N. Tustin Ave. | Santa Ana | CA

phn | 714.973.4800
web | calvarylife.org