

What To Do When It's

Time to Move

By Donna Pyle

Open with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide your study of the Word.

Our minds can be fierce battlefields. Often the battles are won or lost in the mind before they ever play out in real time. But what does God promise us in 1 Corinthians 2:16?

God has given us the mind of Christ. God calls us to face our mental battles and reminds us that He stands with us. So we plant our feet on the battlefield, fix our eyes on Him, and prepare to be awed by His glory. How can you translate that into your own life?

Read **2 Chronicles 20:17–18**. God still requires us to step onto the battlefield. We march! We may be tempted to tell God, “Well, if the battle is yours, I’ll just stay home.” Not! God reminds us to stand up, suit up, and get engaged! In His strength we stand firm. How have you experienced that truth?

Jehoshaphat knew they were facing a battle to the death. Their whole way of life and their families were at stake. Do you believe that would provide motivation for you as well?

Read **2 Chronicles 20:18–22**. Jehoshaphat placed worship at the vanguard of the attack. Can you picture that? The enemy expected to meet a battle cry; instead, they met a wall of praise! When we cease complaining and start worshipping, the Holy Spirit leads us to praise our way out of uncertainty and defeat. Have you ever done that? What happened?

When we discuss nothing but our problems over and over, we rehearse defeat. The problems get bigger in our minds. Discuss a time when that was true of you.

Read **Romans 10:17**. Faith comes from hearing! If we only rehearse and hear defeat, that’s exactly what will happen. We rehearse disaster instead of moving to praise. When we praise first, we trust God with the victory even before it happens.

Did you notice in **verse 19** that they worshipped “with a very loud voice”? When we’re fearful, volume gives us courage! The Koahites and Korahzites were the worship leaders of their day. The music ministers led with very loud voices at the vanguard of the assault. They were in a prime position to see God’s amazing defeat of the enemy. When you sing, do you do so tentatively? Have you ever sat next to someone who was singing his or her heart out in church? How did that affect your worship?

In the heat of the battle, we can barely think clearly, so we need to turn the worship music UP! There comes a time to raise the roof with praise — at home, in our cars, in our churches. When was the last time you made a fool out of yourself in the car worshipping God? Who cares what others think! Our praise is for an audience of One. Praise comes first in the battle.

Read **2 Chronicles 20:25**. God not only brings us victory, but He brings us blessing. Our plunder will be abundant priceless treasure! Not physical plunder but spiritual blessings that we’ve never had before. What might some of those be?

When I think of praise, my mind immediately goes to Handel’s *Hallelujah Chorus*.^{*} Have you ever noticed the words? In that song, the word “Hallelujah” appears 23 times. Wow! We use praise as our battle cry and watch God bring the victory.

I don’t know if you’re in a valley right now. Maybe you’re wondering what to do. But what I know based on God’s Word is this: You will never be in a valley so deep that God cannot use it as a valley of praise. Never.

In faith, we will watch God turn our valleys of praise into the mountaintops of the *Hallelujah Chorus*!

Close in prayer. If you have a recording of Handel’s *Hallelujah Chorus*, or can download it online, play it here.

^{*}English-language oratorio composed in 1741. Catalogued as Messiah HWV 56, HG xlv; and HHA i/17. Anthony Hicks. “Handel, George Frideric”, *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, ed. S. Sadie and J. Tyrrell (London: Macmillan, 2001), x, 785.

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