

When The Crisis Comes

I want to ask you to give it on up for our worship team this morning. We're so thankful for our team, Aliyah and the gang. Thank you so much. We're so appreciative. We thank you for our hosts.

This morning's host, Pastor Lori. Thank you so much. And we thank you for Pastor Cassandra for not only that word, but also leading our missions. Leading our missions. God is good.

Listen, we want to say this real quick for all those who are in the house. We know we have some folks online and we appreciate that. But for all those in the house, I want to let you know there's two birthdays that we want to recognize. We don't often do this, but I want to do this today. Two birthdays.

We want to want to recognize the oldest saint in our church who's here today, and we're so thankful for her. We want to thank the Lord for her and all the work she's done for us. And just the prayer and support. Would you give up for Miss Dottie. Dottie Drake?

All right. That's right. Look at them all standing for you. All right.

It's good to be. And also we want to thank our very own tyke Bashara. Also his birthday as well. That's right. And so after service is if you're in the house.

See, that's why you got to come to the house after service. You can grab a cupcake or a piece of cake and get on your way. Come on, now. That's what I want to do. I want to go to a church where they give away cake.

Come on, now. In Jesus name. Straight up. Straight up. I want to go to the church way.

I'm going to be at that church. I'll be a faithful attender. Come on, now. As long as it's chocolate. Come on, now.

And homemade frosting. Come on. In Jesus name. That's right. That's right.

In Jesus name. God is good. Hey, let's pray real quick. And I got a word for you. And as you now know, we're going to be running out of here by time, so I have to be really, really conscious of time.

But God is good. And I think the Lord has a word for us today. And I want to ask you, get your bibles together. As we wait on the Lord to speak to us. Let's pray together.

Father God, today we thank you for the privilege we have of coming to your house. And, Lord, this morning, as I was praying, I was just thankful for all those who have said to themselves, today, I'm going to church, Lord God, you don't take that kind of thing for granted because it says that they want to be with you, they want to be with your people and they want to grow, Lord God. They want to be able to see your hand move in their lives and in the situations that they encounter. Abba Father, today we're asking that you would just allow your spirit to be sensed in this place, that you would speak to us from a whole new place. And that through it, Lord God, we may be able to walk through this life with confidence and assurance of who you are and what you've declared in our lives.

Lord, today we need you more than ever. And so, God, I'm asking that you'd exalt your name and your word above all else. And everybody said amen and amen. Thank you so much. I'm going to ask you to grab your Bibles today.

I have a word that's entitled when the Crisis Comes. When the Crisis Comes. And oftentimes you see me up here jumping around and having a lot of fun and all that. I don't necessarily know if that's going to be the case today, but I can tell you this. This is a word that the Lord has placed on my spirit.

Kind of gave it to me. Later in the week, I was actually working on a completely different sermon, but you know, God has the right to override. He can veto any of my plans. Come on now. He has the right to veto any of my plans and our plans in Jesus name.

And so I want you to know this. Go ahead and hit me. We've all been there. We've all been there when we've gotten a call, got a text, or maybe even seen it, or Facebook when calamity happens. We've all been there.

And I can remember different times in my lives, in my life when I've gotten different phone calls. And it wasn't good news on the other end. Come on now. It was news where people say stuff like this. I need you to sit down.

I need you to hear me. I want to say something to you. Trying to prepare us for the news to come. We've all been there before. And I can tell you, even the case in my life and in my family and even recently here, very recently, especially for those who are part of our prayer team and those who submit prayers regularly, even this past week has been one of those weeks for yours truly.

On Monday, I received a call from my sister and she was telling me of a situation. And I want to tell you a little bit about it, just so that you can get the context of where we're headed today. We've all been there before. And so the situation that I experienced is not too much different from what you experienced. I got a call from my sister, and she said this.

Did you hear about your nephew Michael? And I'm like, no, I didn't hear nothing about Michael. And she proceeded to tell me that my nephew Michael, who is living in south St. Louis, working and in school there, was at a restaurant ordering food, just going about his day. And unfortunately, a fight broke out, weapons were drawn, fires were shot, and he was shot in the head.

That's what I'm talking about. We've all been there. We've all had those kind of situations happen before. But when you hear the news, you immediately are arrested in your spirit. You don't know where to go, where to turn, what to think.

You have more questions than you do peace. You have more questions than you do. A perspective. And today I want to speak to you about that. What you need to do when the crisis comes.

I preached these kind of messages before, but as I was thinking through, the Holy Spirit kind of reminded me most times when I spoke in stuff like this, it's when people are actually in the midst of the situation, it's not before it comes. And so today's message is that of a preventative type of message. It's one of those that when the calamity comes, when the difficulty comes, when the bad news comes, you know exactly what to do. And I'm so excited to preach this word because I don't know about you, but where I grew up at, where when I was coming up as a young adult and coming up in church, they didn't preach these kind of messages. They weren't the kind of messages that got you ready for something like this.

And I can tell you time at the time where I've heard such messages. Here's the good news. If you're wondering about my nephew, once I heard that news, I did what I always do, what I've been trained to do, what I've purposed to tell my spirit to do. When difficult news happens, the first thing I do is I stop and I pause and go to the Lord. Now, I know y' all saying, yeah, yeah, yeah, But I want you to understand something.

It's natural for people to be drawn back or thrown back by news. That's natural. We're all human. Even Jesus himself, when he got the news of his good friend Lazarus dying, I'm sure the human part of him, the humanity portion of who he is, was kind of struck. And so I want you to know that, and I want you to hear this.

Go ahead and hit me before the phone rings, before the diagnosis comes, before somebody passes, before the bottom falls out, There are truths you need to anchor in your soul so that when the crisis comes, you know exactly where to stand, you know exactly what to do. And I apologize for the screen. We can. Can we darken the back a little bit? I don't know if we can, but let's do that.

I'll read this stuff. I want you to hear this. Go ahead and hit me. You cannot always prepare. Thank you.

You can always prepare for what will come, will happen to you, but you can prepare your soul for how you will respond. So though you don't know what's going to happen to you, you don't know the news is going to happen, you can always be ready. And that's the part that the Holy Spirit kept taking me back to. I kept thinking of all these different types of realities, that, guess what? If a fire broke out in this building, we know what to do.

We know to get out of this place. Some of us know enough to pull the fire alarm, to alert the fire department. So there's already some stuff we know to do when the occurrence happens. You follow me? And that's what this sermon is all about, to get you ready to know what you need to do when the calamity, when the crisis happens.

Can I tell you something? Today Pastor Cassandra was reading my heart and really speaking from the sermon, because I want you to grab your Bibles and let's go to the Scriptures and see what the Bible has to say. Let's go through the Scriptures and see what the Bible has to say. Let me set this all up by the word of God. And you know me, the word of God's got to do the preaching.

Come on now. You don't need my eloquence. You don't need my insight. You don't need my wisdom. You need God's truth.

In Jesus name, somebody should have said Amen. All right, we need God's truth in a situation like this. Let's go there. Let's go to Second Chronicles, chapter 20. And for those who've been in the church, you've heard this story before, but.

But perhaps you haven't heard it from me. All right, In Jesus name, this is 2nd Chronicles, chapter 20, starting at verse 1. In the background is this. God has a as a leader in place who is godly, who knows him, who reveres him, who has changed the landscape of the nation. So this is somebody that actually knows God, who's living for God.

In 2nd Chronicles, chapter 20, verse 1, it says this. After this, the Moabites and the Ammonites and some of the Menites came to wage war against Jehoshaphat. So three different nations were coming after Jehovah and the people of God. Verse 2 says it like this. Some of the people came and told Jehoshaphat, a vast army is coming against you from Eden, from the other side of the Dead Sea.

It is already. This army, this group is already in Hazzan, Hazazan, Tamar, which is ein Gedi. Verse 3 says this. Alarmed. I want you to check this.

Now, maybe the screen doesn't do it too much justice, but I want you to check this. Alarmed. Jehoshaphat. Look at the first thing that he does. Alarmed.

He resolved to inquire of the Lord. The first thing he did, he didn't panic. He didn't call up his cousin in them. He didn't check his bank account. He.

He went to the Lord in church. Let me tell you something. When the crisis comes, the Lord is your best option.

Now, I know y' all like, yeah, yeah, yeah. I'm telling you, you have to train yourself to know how to go to the Lord. The Bible says Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the Lord. And he proclaimed. He proclaimed a.

Come on church. He proclaimed a fast for all of Judah. Everybody has beyond this. This is. Watch this.

This is a whole family situation.

And the Scriptures would bear this out. This is one of the places in Scripture where everybody had a part to play. The Bible will even say later in this chapter that all the men, the women, and the children. So everybody was in on this. And that should say something to us when we're going through something.

And let me say this for the party people. When you're going through something, there are people that you can go through it with. No, y' all ain't hearing me. I pray that you got somebody to go through it with you. Come on.

Now, in other words, I don't want you to be the type of person that's trying to hold stuff in because you're fearful, ashamed, or whatever God has given us folks, we can use. Now watch this. Verse 4 says it like this. The people of Judah came together. Somebody say together.

Say together. They came together. They put aside all their differences. They came together, the Bible says, to seek help from the Lord. Indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him.

This was an all points bulletin. Watch this in verse 5. Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the assembly of Judah in Jerusalem at the temple of the Lord in front of the new courtyard and said, stay right there. Jehoshaphat stands up in front of all these people who've met, and he wants to deliver a word. Now, let me just tell y' all something.

What he's going to share with you is his prayer to the Lord for this situation. Now, I want you to hear what I'm about to say, because this is so important. If you missed this, you're gonna miss a huge, huge part of this sermon. How this guy prays is how you and I should pray when calamity happens. No, y' all ain't hearing me.

Let me say it again. If you're smart, you'll not only see what's on the screen, but you'll write it down and reread it again this week, because this is the way that we need to move when difficulty comes our way. What did he say? He says this. He says this.

He says this. Lord, the God of our ancestors. He says, you are the God that's connected to all the promises we're not living in. Now, y' all ain't hearing me when he says the God of our ancestors. He's saying, God, the same promises you gave them are still the same promises that exist for us.

Y' all hear what I'm trying to say. In other words, he's saying, God, you got to be a keeper of your word. You got to be a keeper of your word. Watch this. It gets so good.

Watch this. Lord, the God of our ancestors. Are you not the God who is in heaven? Let me give you another translation. Are you not the boss?

Do you not call all the shots? That's who you are. He's like, I want you to understand, God. I know you to be the man. You are the one with your butt on the throne.

Come on, now. You have the final say. Now watch this. He goes on and says this. You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations.

Power and might are in your hands, and no one can withstand you. You see how he's praying? He's giving all these accolades to God. It gets a little better. Watch this.

Our God. Did you not. Watch this. 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, like, he's like, you gave this to us. And some people are Trying to infringe on us, but you gave it to us. Are you going to let them take from us what you gave to us? Like, basically, he said, God, do something. Do something.

Watch this. It gets even better. Go ahead and hit me. Watch this. They live in it and have built in it a sanctuary.

Watch this, y'. All. For your name, God. Your name is on this. Your name is in this.

This is your battle, not mine. Come on, now. This is your battle, not ours. Watch this. It gets even better.

Watch this. I love this. He says this. You said this. If calamity comes upon us, whether the sword of judgment or.

Or plague or famine, we will stand in your presence before this temple that bears your name. Watch this. And we'll cry out to you in our distress. Watch this, y'. All.

And you will hear us, and you will hear us. And you will, and you will. You made a promise that when trouble came our way, we would go to the church house all together, cry out to your name, and you're going to hear us and you're going to save us. Can I tell y' all something? Let me tell you something from the seat of a pastor.

There needs to be more meetings in this church house for prayer. Because some of us got some untenable situations, and we're trying to handle them outside of God's grace, mercy, and help. Jehoshaphat tells us what we're supposed to do. Come together. Let's talk about it.

Watch this. Verse 10, he really begins to talk about. He says this, but now here are the men from Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir whose territory you would not allow Israel to invade. You see the craftiness of Jehoshaphat's prayer. He, like, you, didn't let us beat them up.

We could have whooped them, but you told us not to. And look how they are repaying us. He like, we could have whooped them. We could have taken care of them like we took care of everybody else. But you said, no, we were obedient.

And now our obedience is coming back to smack us in the face.

But now here are the men from Ammah, Moab and Mount Seiro, whose territory you would not allow Israel to invade when they came from Egypt. So they have turned away from them and did not destroy them. Now watch this. Verse 11 says this. See how they are repaying us by coming to drive us out of the possession you gave us as an inheritance.

Here's the power verse today. Here's the power verse right here. Verse 12, the power verse. You can't see it, but I'm going to read it real well. Watch this.

Our God, will you not judge them, for we have no power to face this vast army that is attacking us. Watch this line. This is one of the greatest lines in scripture you will ever hear. We don't know what to do. Ever been there?

You ever been there? You don't know what to do. Watch what he says. But our eyes are on you. Isn't that a great line?

That's a great line. I don't know what to do, God. But I do know that you are God. I don't know what to say. I don't know the feelings I have.

I don't know the move to make. But I resolve to have you. Can I tell you this? Go ahead and hit me. Write this in your notes.

This story and prayer are by far among the greatest in all of scripture. And they're uniquely placed so that we can be encouraged and at peace during times of trouble and uncertainty. I thoroughly believe that God puts this passage of scripture in so that we could see it and know how to handle difficulties. Because you know what Jesus said? Jesus says, in this world you will have.

Come on now. In this world you will have. You will have trouble. Jesus said, you're gonna have trouble. But then he says, don't sweat it because I've overcome the world.

In other words, I know the way to deal with the trouble. What are you saying today? Can I tell you something? Listen, there's some things you need to know. Church.

And I'm gonna run on down. I'm not saying this because you haven't been there. And this is not a sermon where it matters if you're a believer or not. Because all of us are going to get a call. All of us are going to see something posted on Facebook that's going to run a rock our proverbial world.

So this has nothing to do with your salvation from a sense of whether you're saved or not. But it does have to do with your salvation if you know Jesus or not. Come on now. What are you saying today? There's a couple things I want you to know.

There's a couple things I want you to know. Number one is this. Write this in your notes. Here's the truth. Beloved, we serve a walk with you kind of God.

He knows that we're hopeless without him. We serve a walk with you kind of God. He is not a God that lets you stand out there all by yourself. God is not going to abandon you, touch your neighbor and say he ain't going to abandon you. I know that's right, girl.

Tell him again. He ain't going to abandon you.

You ever had those people? When trouble comes, they came. They're nowhere to be found. They blaze up your phone, they text you all day long. But when you are in deep, deep need, you can't even get a hold of them.

And now you cussing them out all in your head. You cussing them out in your head and you're calling all kind of names, right? No, I'm telling you. One thing you need to know is we serve a walk with you kind of God. I know that's right.

Watch what the word of God says in Psalm 46. 1. You should know this one. God is our refuge and strength. I love this.

An ever present help in times of trouble. So God is not just a God up the valley, he's also the God of the mountaintop as well. He's God when it's good. And he's God actually, really when it's really, really bad. Come on now.

What are you saying? In Jesus name, I'm telling you, this is where I was at. The same verse, different translation says it like this. God is our mighty fortress. Now, I love that.

The author, the writer here, this version says fortress. Because when we see and think of that word fortress, we think of stability, we think of firmness. We think of a place where we can run to that's safe. Watch this. God is our mighty fortress.

Always ready to help in times of trouble. Did you get that? He's always ready to help you when you're in trouble. And here's the goodness of God. Somebody.

I need to tell somebody this. Maybe they're online. Even when you're not living the way you should be living, God can still be counted on.

I know that's right. Somebody said, thank you, Lord. I know that's right. Come on now. Can I tell you this?

Write this in your notes. Despite what happens to you, always remember that God is right there with you. And that's something I have to always remind myself. It's like Cornell. No matter what you're going through, he's there.

Stop treating God like he's somewhere out there. He's right here, right now, and I'm talking to somebody. Because when the call comes, when the text comes, when you see it posted, you're going to remember this message. And instead of you wilting out, instead of you getting into your feelings and into your head, you know you need to turn to the Lord first. Somebody say, amen Can I tell you this?

Listen in Psalm 37. I'm sorry, 34. Psalm 34, verses 17 and 19. The new living translation says this. The Lord hears his people when they call to him and help.

Thank you, Jesus. He rescues them from all of their troubles. That's not Cornell Holocaust. That's what the word of God says. Verse 18 says it like this.

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted. He rescues those who are crushed, whose spirits are crushed. Some translations say who are crushed in spirit, whose spirits are crushed.

I can't explain it, y', all, but when I got the call for my sister, I wasn't alarmed. It didn't take me back. Like I. For some reason, the grace of God gave me the capacity to be able to know what to do. Because I've learned that when calamity happens, calmness is the way you need to roll.

Any other way just adds to the confusion. Yep. Anybody ever. You ever seen something get chaotic, and then because people don't know what to do, they get chaotic, and now everybody's in trouble? What are you saying today?

I'm simply saying to you, the Bible tells us the Lord is close to the brokenhearted. He rescues those whose spirits are crushed. Verse 19 says this. Watch this. The righteous person faces many trials, but God comes to the rescue each time.

Another translation says this. The righteous experience trouble, but the Lord delivers them every time. Delivers them every time. That's why you need to be in Jesus, because you have a savior who's able to rescue you in the midst of. Of the calamity that you're experiencing, the crisis that you're experiencing.

And sometimes. Let me. Just to be clear. Let me be clear. Sometimes God's rescue don't look like how we want it to look like.

No, y' all ain't hearing me. Let me talk to y' all over here. Let me talk to mature folks over here. Just because you don't like the situation doesn't mean that God ain't working in it. And just because it's not happening the way you want it to happen doesn't mean that God's not working behind the scenes.

I can tell you this. And for those who know, all week long, we have been getting updates on my nephew, and every single day, the prognosis gets better. Every. And I'm like, lord, you're proving yourself. You're proving yourself.

Like, first of all, they. Like, first of all, the bullet didn't hit anything that was critical in his brain. I'm like, well, that's awesome. That's awesome. That's actually the miracle.

When he got hit, he kind of. The bullet kind of jarred him to the point where he fell and he hit his head and that was where the trauma came in. But I can tell you today that he's up, he's talking, and next week they're talking about him already getting therapy. You can't tell me God won't do it. You can't tell me God won't do it.

You can't tell me he won't do it.

Can I tell you this? Understand this, friends, go ahead and hit me. There is nothing that you'll ever go through that the Lord can't get you through. Let me tell you that again. There's nothing that you will ever go through that Jesus can't get you through.

Now, I know in the midst of the calamity, in the midst of the crisis, you don't see nothing numb. But I'm telling you that Jesus is either Lord of all or he's Lord of nothing. Write that he's either Lord of all situations, knowing all things, or he's not. And so in my mind, this is an opportunity.

Listen, listen, listen.

There's nothing that you'll ever go through that the Lord can't get you through. In fact, it's the literal reason why he came and that was to rescue us.

Jesus is in the rescuing business. He is in the testifying business. That's what he has come to do. What are you saying today? Can I tell you this in John 14:27.

Watch this. He says this. In John 14:27, he says this. I leave you peace. It's my own peace.

I give you. Did you hear that? I love that translation. It's my peace. I'm not giving you what somebody else made.

I'm not giving you what somebody else purchased. I'm giving you directly from me. Listen, I leave you peace. It's my own peace. I give you.

I give you peace in a different way than the world does. So don't be troubled, don't be afraid. He says the world, their peace comes. Oh, come on, somebody. Can I get in trouble?

Watch this. Mama, let me get in trouble. Write this in your notes. The world's peace in the. In the time of crisis and calamity is to take control.

Oh, y' all ain't hearing me. Come on now. Come on now. Come on. We think peace means I control it.

And so sometimes situations come our way where we can't control. And it's a God ordained situation.

It's A God responsive situation. Jesus tells us, the peace that I give you is different than the peace of this world. The world wants you to wild out. The world wants you. Let me tell you this.

I'm going to get in trouble. Let me get. Listen, I'm going to run out of here at 12. Listen, you don't always need to post your junk on Facebook. You don't always need to post your stuff online.

They don't want to hear me over there. Let me say it over here. Sometimes your news don't need to be online. Sometimes your. Listen, let me restate this.

Sometimes your news don't need to be online. Sometimes and all the time. Should I say your news need to be on your knees? Oh, they ain't ready. They ain't ready, bro.

They ain't ready. I'm saying, if I'm gonna talk to somebody about it, let me talk to him first about it. Then I'm gonna tell everybody else. We have this habit of running to everybody else, as if everybody else can help our situation. Everybody else can give us sympathy.

Everybody else can say, oh, I'm praying for you. And that's all good, but if you ain't going to God first, I think that's foolish.

What are you saying today, Cornell? What are you saying today? I think that we have to exercise wisdom if we want the peace of God. Can I tell you this? Go ahead and hit me.

When calamity strikes, we often forget where to look. Instead of looking up, we typically look inward. Yet may the Holy Spirit himself train us to look to the Lord first before anything else. I'm telling you what I did. My wife would tell you.

We were both there. I literally got up, walked out into my garage, and I'm praying. I just started praying because that's what I know to do. I know that I have to go to him first. There's nothing I can do.

I'm not in St. Louis. Come on, now. I'm not no medical professional. I don't know. Right?

But I do know the great physician.

I'm trying to help y' all today. I'm trying to help you for that time. And I'm telling you, when that time comes, you'll think back to this message and say, oh, wait a minute, let me check myself. What are you saying? Can I tell you this?

Typically, go ahead and hit me. Typically, when a crisis comes, we tend to think about what we've lost or don't have yet. Moving forward, you must set your mind on what you do, not what you do. Have Excuse me. Because that will make all the difference in so many ways.

When calamity comes, when crisis comes, we talk about, oh, I can't, or, oh, we don't have. But now I want to change and shift your thinking to think about what you do have. I have the community of faith. I have people I actually can talk to who actually pray.

Like, I ain't. Let me take some. I ain't telling you if you don't pray. I want the people that got the red line of Jesus. Come on, now.

I want whoever got the. Hey, Sister Jesse, I'm calling you. She talked, right? To Jesus. No, just write to him right there.

That's who I want to talk. I'm telling you right now. Church, we often talk about what we don't have. But you need to start thinking about what you do have. You have the church.

You have the elders. Just last week at the end of service, we called up all the elders to pray for someone. Some of you were here last week. The Bible says when you have trouble, if there's a need, somebody sick, you call up the elders, you anoint them and pray for them, right? So we have all these other elements.

Because when you're in it, you don't think about what you have. You think about what you lost or what's gone. Watch this. What you can't control.

What are you saying? Can I tell you something? Here's the truth of the matter. We have an incredible opportunity to see God through all of us, to see God through it all. Some of you know the story of my mom, Ms. Merlin Jordan, that she suffered a double stroke.

And when she suffered that double stroke, I was in Cleveland Clinic, standing there with her. And if you know anything about a stroke, your body goes into paralysis. She suffered a double stroke. So her whole, entire body was in paralysis. She had the whole nine.

Her lips were mangled, saliva dripping and all that. Nobody wants to see their mama like that. Come on, now. She lost control of all of her bodily functions. This is my mama, the one who birthed me.

Come on, now. But I remember standing in that room, and all I can do, all I could do at that time was sing worship songs. And I remember one of the ladies saying, that boy is going to worship his mother back to health. And I'm like, I'm gonna try. Come on, now.

I'm gonna try. What are you saying? I'm saying to you, in that moment, I had an opportunity to demonstrate the goodness of God. Faith that he's helped me to gain. Maybe I wasn't there.

But maybe he was using this to get me there.

Or I could shrink back and not bring glory to his name. Can I tell you something? We have an opportunity. Check this out. Go ahead and hit me.

Faith, I want you to hear this. If you don't hear this, you won't hear nothing. Faith doesn't mean the news doesn't shake you. Just because you believe in Jesus doesn't mean that you won't be shaken by it. Faith doesn't mean that the news doesn't shake you.

But faith should determine where you go when you have been shaken. Oh, y' all ain't hear me? Can I just talk to y'? All? Just say amen for me.

Okay, I. Just say it for me. Watch this. Faith doesn't mean the news doesn't shake you. Because we're all shaken by difficult news.

The calamity, the tragedy, these different things. Crisis. But faith should determine where you go when you've been shaken. Now watch this. Now, that's the nice side of Cornell.

That's the prepping, you know, for five, six days. Cornell. Here's the real Cornell. If you go to something else, then you're telling me who your God is. Oh.

Oh, let me. Oh, they didn't hear that. Wait a minute. Let me. Let me say that again.

If I turn to it first.

If I turn to it first.

That's why I'm appealing to you, church, that we've got to learn. We've got to ask the Holy Spirit to teach us how to turn to Jesus first.

What are you saying today? Can I tell you this? Go ahead and hit me. The news that shakes our world doesn't shake his throne. Because nothing catches God by surprise.

And you know what? I can tell you this for sure, Kenyatta. I can tell you this for sure. I done told God many times. God, this didn't catch you by surprise?

I had to remind God. God, guess what? It shocked me, but it didn't shock you. And since you're not shocked, then I need what you have for me in this situation. What are you saying?

I'm learning to pray from the situation, just like Jehoshaphat did. He didn't just pray, Lord, rescue me, Bring him back to life. He didn't do that. He didn't do that. I would challenge you to read back over that section of scripture and learn how you can talk to God and see what God does.

What are you saying today? Can I tell you this in Jesus name?

Faith, before the crisis believes God can. Oh, this is heavy. And faith in the crisis knows that God will be true to his word, be present in the storm, and be faithful to the end. Y' all hear what I just said? Let me say that all again, too good.

Faith before the crisis believes that God can. And faith in the crisis knows that God will be true to his word, present in the storm, and faithful to the very end. Somebody say amen. What are you saying today? Go ahead and hit me.

Listen, crisis, faith isn't faith.

Christ's faith isn't faith that everything will turn out the way I want. But it is confidence that God is still God. He still reigns on the throne. He is still present. God is still working.

And guess what? And God will not abandon us. That's real faith. Faith says, I don't know all the answers, but I know God. I don't even know what to do, but I know God does.

And so guess what? Sometimes I gotta wait. Sometimes we gotta wait. I'm telling you, Champ, sometimes we just gotta wait.

Because we know what scripture says. In the waiting, that's what we renew our strength. Come on, now. Like Cornell. How does that happen?

I just got news that they're leaving me. I just got news they're going to take my house away. So many calls I got this week of stuff just like that. They're wanting to kick us out our house. I'm like, look, guess what?

Before you start overthinking, come on now, start praying.

What are you saying? Can I tell you this? Watch this in Proverbs 3, 5, 6. You should have known it was coming. You should have known it was coming.

You should have known it was coming. You should have known. Tell your neighbor. You should have known. Come on, now.

Go ahead and tell them again. You should have known. This is easy. This is easy. Fundamental to faith in Jesus.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart. And watch this part. And lean not on your own understanding. How many of y' all know that is like carte blanche. For when the crisis comes, the first thing you do is start overthinking.

So literally, Champ, this is what I gotta do. Champ. I have to tell myself, back up. Pause. Just stop, Catch yourself.

Go to prayer. Because if you don't stop yourself, it's like this snowball starts rolling down the mountainside, and now it's got all kind of crazy. And I don't know about y', all, but when we get the call, a crisis, everybody's calling us at the same time. And I'm like, you know what? Just pump your brain.

Let me. Let me just talk To Jesus first. I'm telling y'. All. Listen, listen, listen, listen.

Everybody, look here. Look here, look here. Look here. Look here, look here, look here. If calamity comes to the Jordan household, don't rush to call us.

I'm telling you. Look, look, look, look, look, look. Everybody, here, here, here. Camera here, here, here, here. If calamity ever happens at the Jordan household, Don call first.

Pray.

That's your instruction from me. You don't have to think. What do you want? I'm telling you what I want. I'm telling you what my wife will tell you.

Don't. You don't even have to come over to the house. She ain't probably doing pretty. She's probably gonna lock the door and act like she ain't there. Come on, now.

You know they like the Jehovah Witnesses. We ain't opening this.

We ain't opening the door. I did say it. Sorry. Sorry. I had to bring some laughter.

It's good for the soul. Come on, now. I'm saying she don't want you to come to the house. If we want you to come to the house, we're going to call you and come to the house. What you should be doing is praying.

When the crisis comes, you pray. What are you saying today? Can I tell you this? Let me get out of here. Let me get out of here.

What are you saying today?

When the crisis comes? Here's the truth of the matter. Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways, submit to him.

In all your ways, submit to him. God, you know what? I can't do nothing about this. I'm powerless. I just got the news.

I realize I don't have the money. I don't got the time. I don't got the energy. I. I'm just numb. Jesus.

And guess what? In all your ways, acknowledge him and he will make your path straight. Some translation says, and he will direct your paths. In other words, he will tell you what the next step is. Guess what?

Can I tell you all this? After I prayed, we got a text. We got a text from my nephew. Another nephew, his brother. We got another text.

Sarah, who handles our prayer, she'll tell you this. Once I got that text, I'm like, this is what I expected. And ever since after that, every single text after that just got better and better and better and better and better and better. Not because God is like, I'm going to do this, but I think it has to do with us saying, God, we don't have no other option.

I was confident, Rick. I was confident that God was going to do something incredible. It was just too many people praying. Too many people praying. I got people overseas praying.

I got friends from other churches praying, and my sister got people praying, and this person got people praying. Listen, we are not going to be that church that just talk about praying. We're actually going to be the church that prays.

So when your calamity comes, when the crisis comes, you go right on the app. You slide all the way down to the bottom of the whole page, and you hit, here's the prayer request. Because the second you send it, we got it and we're on it. There's plenty of times we have to tell people we're praying right now. When calamity comes, there's a way in which we should take.

Can I tell you this? Go ahead and hit me above. Else. When the crisis comes, you must not get ahead of the Lord in your thinking, actions, or demeanor. That's the fail that most people have.

They get ahead of Jesus. Now you're like, what do you mean getting ahead of Jesus? You already working things out, and he ain't told you nothing. Oh, come on, now, y'. All.

Come on. He ain't told you. Well, I just feel in my spirit. No, you don't feel in your spirit because you ain't even talk to the spirit.

So the calamity could be way easier. The crisis could be way more sustainable when we go to him, because he can give us peace. The Bible says he gives us peace. That surpasses all understanding. You're like, what, What's.

So what's. Why ain't you wiling out? Because guess what? I already gave it to him. I gave it to him.

He talking about Cornell. Can I tell you this? So what should you do? I'm asking the worship team to come on up. So what should you do?

I'm going to give you five things you should do when calamity strikes, when the crisis comes, this is what I want to challenge you to do. These five things. Y' all ready? If you ready, say amen. God number one, silence your mind.

Silence your mind, your heart and spirit. That's what it should say. Silence your mind, your heart, and your spirit. Silence them. Just get quiet.

Like I said. Just allow the Lord the space and time to say, Wait a minute. Wait, wait, wait, wait. Bump your brakes. Like whenever something crazy happens.

I don't know about y', all, but I have to wait real quick, because if I respond real quick, I'm probably responding out of flesh. You ever had somebody say something to you? Like, wait a minute, did you just say that? Like, for real? Because I'm glad I just misheard you.

Because if I would have really heard you, I would have probably tried to hurt you. Anybody out there? I'm just a pastor. Come on now. I'm just.

Come on, now. I'm saying the first thing you need to do is get silent. Pause, if you will. Number two. Turn.

Turn to the Lord for peace of mind, the right perspective, and for stability. So get silent is the first one. The second one is to turn to the Lord. Turn to the Lord. Notice I walked outside of my house.

I could have prayed inside. My wife could have heard me. And she hears me pray all the time. We pray all the time. We'll stop what we're doing.

We actually pray for people, for stuff. But this time I just wanted to go out so I can have my faculties about myself. I wasn't just going to offer God anything.

Get silent. Turn to Jesus. Number three. Ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom, discernment, discretion, direction, and divine hope.

Silent, turn, ask.

Number four. Never rush the process, but wait on the Lord to respond to your prayers. Just wait on the Lord. I'm so glad I went. Like Lamar.

That's my nephew. Like Lamar. What's happening? Give me the news. I need to update.

Nope. It came when it came, and it came how it needed to come.

Silence, turn. Ask never. And last, but certainly not least, number five, declare God's faithfulness. It should say wisdom and power. It's going to say the Lord, the Lord's faithfulness, goodness and power.

Silence, turn. Ask, never, declare.

That's an acronym, everybody. I'm gonna say it. I'm say them all again. That's an acronym. Stand, Listen.

Silence, turn. Ask, never, declare. The Bible says, when you don't know what to do, when you don't know what to do, the Bible says, just stand. Go ahead and hit me. Watch this.

Watch what the word of God says. Watch this. In Exodus 14:13 says this. Moses told the people, don't be afraid. Listen to what he says.

Just stand.

When you don't know what to do. When the crisis comes, stand.

Silence. Your heart and your spirit, your mind. Turn to the Lord for direction. Ask him what he wants you to do. Come on, somebody.

Never get ahead of him, because that's what everybody else is going to want to do. But beloved, you have the mind of Christ. He's giving you the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the ability to control Our emotions, our actions, even our behavior. Last but certain, not least, declare.

Declare God's faithfulness.

Now, this last slide, I'm going to ask you, if you will, to get out your phones. And I'm going to ask those who are online to watch this slide. I'm going to walk it through. What should you do? Get your phone out.

Take a photo of this one. I'm going to post this when I'm sitting at the airport. Because here's the deal. When crisis comes, watch this. Bad news arrives, fear occurs.

What should I do? I should seek God. Next, I should gather community.

You remember this time? We gathered the community. We get around people that actually going to pray. We get around people that actually know what to do. If you read 2nd Chronicles, chapter 20, and you keep reading, one of the men of God stood up and gave them the direction of what they should do.

Bad news arrives, fear occurs. I'm telling you, seek God. Gather community. Remember God's character. Remember God's promises, his faithfulness, his nature.

Watch this. Admit your helplessness. There's nothing I can do. Watch this. Oftentimes God wants us in a place where we can do nothing.

So he can do everything.

Ha. Then listen. Listen to. Watch this. Listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Listen for wise counsel. How many. I know when you're dealing with family in situations like this, there's always going to be somebody that's wilding out. Just raise your hand if y' all know what I'm talking about. Every time there's calamity, every time there's tragedy, every time there's a crisis, there's always one person that's always like, what in the world is wrong with you?

You're not a part of the program.

That is not helping anybody. So you, beloved, must keep your wits about yourself. Listen. Stand on the word worship. Pastor Cassandra alluded to it.

If you read this story all the way through, you will see that they started worshiping. And when they started worshiping, God really went into action. Telling you something, if y' all like me, my mama on Saturday mornings had that music going. Mama, we had the music going. Mama was singing her praises.

She was getting things going. She was teaching us how to battle. Get your worship together, then wait in faith, and from there, move forward. When the crisis comes, I pray you will know what to do. I'm going to ask you to do me a favor.

Would you bow your heads and close your eyes? For all those online, we want to say thank you for being a part of our service. Today. We thank you for your.