

WINNING THE BATTLE

People who are desperate for God seek the presence of God.

Isaiah 64:1 – Oh, that **you** would burst from the heavens and **come down!**
How the mountains would quake **in your presence!**

2 Chronicles 20:2a – Messengers came and told Jehoshaphat, “A vast army from Edom is marching against you from beyond the Dead Sea.”

1. Pray and fast before the battle.

- **2 Chronicles 20:3, 6, 9, 12, 15** – Jehoshaphat was terrified by this news and begged the LORD for guidance. He also ordered everyone in Judah to begin fasting. He prayed, “O LORD, God of our ancestors, you alone are the God who is in heaven. You are ruler of all the kingdoms of the earth. You are powerful and mighty; no one can stand against you! They said, ‘Whenever we are faced with any calamity such as war, plague, or famine, we can come to stand in your presence before this Temple where your name is honored. We can cry out to you to save us, and you will hear us and rescue us.’ O our God, won’t you stop them? We are powerless against this mighty army that is about to attack us. We do not know what to do, but we are looking to you for help.” He said, “Listen, all you people of Judah and Jerusalem! Listen, King Jehoshaphat! This is what the LORD says: Do not be afraid! Don’t be discouraged by this mighty army, for the battle is not yours, but God’s.”
- **The result: It’s where strength and clarity come from.**

2. Praise and worship through the battle.

- **2 Chronicles 20:18, 21–22, 26, 30** – Then King Jehoshaphat bowed low with his face to the ground. And all the people of Judah and Jerusalem did the same, worshiping the LORD. After consulting the people, the king appointed singers to walk ahead of the army, singing to the LORD and praising him for his holy splendor. This is what they sang: “Give thanks to the Lord; his faithful love endures forever!” At the very moment they began to sing and give praise,

WINNING THE BATTLE

the LORD caused the armies of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir to start fighting among themselves. On the fourth day they gathered in the Valley of Blessing, which got its name that day because the people praised and thanked the LORD there. It is still called the Valley of Blessing today. So Jehoshaphat's kingdom was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side.

- **The result: It's where blessing and peace come from.**

3. Proclaim His greatness after the battle.

- **2 Chronicles 20:27–29** – Then all the men returned to Jerusalem, with Jehoshaphat leading them, overjoyed that the Lord had given them victory over their enemies. They marched into Jerusalem to the music of harps, lyres, and trumpets, and they proceeded to the Temple of the Lord. When all the surrounding kingdoms heard that the Lord himself had fought against the enemies of Israel, the fear of God came over them.

Coming soon:

1. **21 Days of Prayer and Fasting:** Be sure to pick up your book at the Connect Center and follow us daily at danriverchurch.org/21days. Let's live and pray as if 2026 is going to be our greatest year ever.
2. **DRC 101:** If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of Dan River Church, don't miss DRC 101 on Sunday, January 25, during the 9:15 am service. Sign up today at the Connect Center or at danriverchurch.org/membership.
3. **Women's Winter Wonderland:** Join us as we celebrate winter with soups and desserts galore, fun, and a special message. Scan the QR code to register today. Invite all the women in your life. Childcare is available.
4. **ALTER'd Young Adult Conference:** If you are between the ages of 18 and 30, don't miss our first ever citywide young adult conference on Saturday, January 31. The cost is \$10. Scan the QR code to register today.
5. **Missions 2026:** If you're interested in learning more about our mission trips this year, be sure to attend our meeting on Sunday, February 1. Trips this year include Montreal, New York City, and El Salvador.