Solving Problems Through Prayer

[**2 Chronicles 20:4-15**](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/index.php?version=49&search=2%20Chronicles%2020:4-15)

When the king of Judah called for a nationwide fast to seek God’s help, the people from every town convened to pray. Jehoshaphat’s actions and words teach us some important truths about solving life’s problems through prayer.

**• God is bigger than our problems.** The king stated that God was the all-powerful ruler of nations, against whom no one could stand (v. 6). Many issues are beyond our ability to solve, but nothing is impossible for Him ([Jer. 32:17; Matt. 19:26](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/index.php?version=49&search=Jer.%2032:17;%20Matt.%2019:26)). If we pray while focusing on His greatness, our troubles will shrink to proper proportions.

**• God wants to involve others in praying with us.** Entire families from throughout Judah answered the king’s call and came together before God ([2 Chron. 20:13](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/index.php?version=49&search=2%20Chron.%2020:13)). Prayer had a central role in the life of the early church as well ([Acts 2:42](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/index.php?version=49&search=Acts%202:42)).

**• Through prayer, the Lord will give us a solution to the problem.** His answer could be just what we asked or something entirely unexpected; He might tell us to wait in our current situation instead of taking action, or He could direct us to become involved in something new. In any case, God’s direction will be according to His perfect will. What’s more, He may ask us to take a step of faith. The Lord uses every opportunity to strengthen our trust and grow us in righteousness.

We don’t know how long the people waited for an answer, but they didn't act until they heard from God. He told them not to be afraid or discouraged, but to trust Him. Prayer likewise brings us into God’s presence so we can receive strength and direction for life’s challenges.