

“This devotional speaks directly from the heart of our Heavenly Papa. I love how it brings about a purposeful focus in strategic prayer to end abortion.”

~Jennifer Milbourn, Vacuum Aspiration Abortion Survivor, Abortion Survivors Network

“Cheryl’s book helps people with the most powerful weapons to help end abortion: prayer, God’s truth, and worship! She leads people through their quiet time with the Lord; helps them prepare their hearts to go to battle for the unborn, mothers and fathers; and shows how to worship Jesus during the battle. I love her kindness and heart behind this book. What a great guide to help our hearts stay on track to be bold in our prayers to end abortion but also love others well.”

~Serena Dyksen, Founder and Author of *She Found His Grace*
SerenaDyksen.com

“A fresh approach to changing abortion law forever. Cheryl Krichbaum introduces worship as the battle plan to stop the practice that destroys millions of lives every year: lives of babies, mothers, fathers, and practitioners.”

~Faye Bryant, Speaker, Life Purpose Coach, and Author of *Coffee, Bible, Journal*; *The Grandma, Mom, and Me Saga*; and *Ramblings from the Shower*
FayeBryant.com

“Written from the heart of a woman who has experienced the healing power of our grace-filled, love-motivated, powerful Heavenly Father, *Worship to End Abortion* beckons the reader with the life changing, life healing power of Jesus Christ. This scripture-rich guide is anointed with hope. Cheryl is your seasoned tour guide on a journey of engaging the Lord in worship to bring about the end of what nearly was the end of her. More Christians need to be equipped for spiritual battle, and Cheryl’s devotional guide will help many confidently put on their armor!”

~Briana Nei, Founder of Revealed Ministries for Women, Speaker, and Author of *Revealed in Ephesians: The Mystery of Who I Am in Christ*
BrianaNei.com

WORSHIP
TO END ABORTION
Your Prayer Guide

CHERYL KRICHBAUM

 **AUTHOR**
ACADEMY elite

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for

Joy Marie

d. June 18, 1987

&

Andrew Towler

who re-introduced me to the power of worship

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DAYS 4-5

Worship Ahead of the Battle

Jesus, the Way,^a open my mind to understand the Scriptures.^b

Worship Warriors

2 Chronicles 20:1-30

“King! King Jehoshaphat! I must speak to the King!”

“What’s wrong?”

“The Moabites from the west and Ammonites from the northwest, and even some of the Meunites are readying to attack Judah!”

King Jehoshaphat got word of the impending attack. He muttered to himself, “They’re already on the east side of the Dead Sea.”

The king remembered that his father, King Asa, had defeated his enemies early in his reign by seeking God before making his

a John 14:6

b Luke 24:45

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battle plan^a and was rebuked by God later in his life when he devised his own plan rather than seeking God first.^b

King Jehoshaphat dropped to his knees and prayed, “Oh, Lord, what do we do?”

The King called out to his servants, “A fast! Call all of Judah to fast. We will meet at the temple to seek the Lord!”

The people of Judah, including women and children, traveled to Jerusalem. King Jehoshaphat stood among his people in the court of the temple and prayed:

O Lord, the God of our fathers, are You not God in the heavens? And are You not ruler over all the kingdoms of the nations? Power and might are in Your hand so that no one can stand against You.

Did You not, O our God, drive out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel and give it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever? They have lived in it, and have built You a sanctuary there for Your name, saying,

‘Should evil come upon us, the sword, or judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we will stand before this house and before You (for Your name is in this house) and cry to You in our distress, and You will hear and deliver us.’^a

Now behold, the sons of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir, whom You did not let Israel invade when they came out of the land of Egypt (they turned aside from them and did not destroy them), see how they are rewarding us by coming to drive us out from Your possession which You have given us as an inheritance.

a 2 Chronicles 14:9-13

b 2 Chronicles 16:7-8

a King Jehoshaphat was quoting King Solomon’s prayer at the dedication of the temple. See 2 Chronicles 6:28-30. God responded to King Solomon with 2 Chronicles 7:14.

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O our God, will You not judge them? For we are powerless before this great multitude who are coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are on You.^a

The Holy Spirit came upon Jahaziel, who was a musician among the priestly tribe of Levi, 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.

'Tomorrow go down against them. Behold, they will come up by the ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the valley in front of the wilderness of Jeruel.

'You need not fight in this battle; station yourselves, stand and see the salvation of the Lord on your behalf, O Judah and Jerusalem.'

'Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out to face them, for the Lord is with you.'^b

King Jehoshaphat and all the people fell down prostrate and worshiped ["shachah" in Hebrew] the Lord. Then the priests got up and praised ["halal" in Hebrew] God in a very loud voice.

The next morning, the fighting men of Judah went out to face their enemies. King Jehoshaphat stood and said:

Listen to me, O Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, put your trust in the Lord your God and you will be established.^c

The king consulted with the people and then appointed the musician priests to go out before the army, saying, "Give thanks ["yadah" in Hebrew] to the Lord for His unfailing love is everlasting."

The praise band went ahead of the army singing, "Thank You!" God hadn't even done anything, yet.

a 2 Chronicles 20:6-12 NASB

b 2 Chronicles 20:15-17 NASB

c 2 Chronicles 20:20b NASB

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When they began singing and praising [“tehillah” in Hebrew], God confused the Ammonites and Moabites so that they fought the inhabitants of Mount Seir and then fought each other.

Not one of the enemies survived.

It took three days for Judah to take the spoil because there was so much! On the fourth day, they assembled and blessed [“barak” in Hebrew] the Lord.



The Jehoshaphat Way

Because all scripture is God-breathed and useful for teaching and training in righteousness so that God’s servants may be thoroughly equipped for every good work,^a let us see what we can learn from Judah’s experience during the reign of King Jehoshaphat.

1. King Jehoshaphat sought first God’s plan.^b
2. The people of Judah worshiped God before the battle by:
 - Falling prostrate [“shachah”].
 - Dancing and boasting about God [“halal”].
 - Giving thanks [“yadah”].
 - Singing praise songs [“tehillah”].
3. After God won the battle for them, the people knelt while praising God [“barak”].

a 1 Timothy 3:16-17

b 2 Chronicles 20:3

Words for Worship & Praise

shachah (Hebrew)—to fall down flat, prostrate (see 2 Chronicles 20:18, Psalm 29:2)

halal (Hebrew)—base of hallelujah, to boast about the Lord in a kind of foolish way, meaning they were excited, giddy, and probably danced as if no one was looking (see 2 Chronicles 20:19, 21; Psalm 18:3)

yadah (Hebrew)—to give thanks (see 2 Chronicles 20:21; Psalm 7:17)

tehillah (Hebrew)—song or hymn of praise (see 2 Chronicles 20:22; Psalm 22:3)

barak (Hebrew)—to kneel while praising God (see 2 Chronicles 20:26; Psalm 16:7; 18:46)

zamar (Hebrew)—to sing praise, make music (see 1 Chronicles 16:9; Psalm 7:17)

towdah (Hebrew)—confession, thanksgiving (see Psalm 26:7)

latreia (Greek)—service for God (see Romans 12:1; Hebrews 9:1)

Praising God Ahead of Personal Battles

I had been studying this story a few months before I was confronted with a new, yet familiar life test. My brother, who has a mental illness and had been missing for one-and-a-half-years, reappeared. He had disappeared from St. Paul, MN and reappeared in Washington, DC—about an hour from my home.

My brother had shut me out of his life long before this disappearance, so I didn't think he would be willing to see me. However, he was willing to see our mom, who lives with me, so I drove her to Washington, DC several times.

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My brother is an avid reader with poor eyesight. He disappeared with his thick glasses and reappeared with none. The hospital said that if we were to take him to get the prescription, he would get new glasses sooner, so I volunteered to take him to get his eyes checked.

My mom did not want to go. The stress of being responsible for him with the possibility of him walking away from us was too much for her.

Mom, Dad, and I talked about the situation at length. None of us was sure how my brother would react to spending several hours with me, but I was not afraid to go. I wanted my brother to have glasses as much as he and my parents, so I made the doctor appointment and arranged my schedule so that I could go.

I left early that morning so that I could find the ophthalmologist's office before I had my brother with me. Traffic in the Washington, DC metro is heavy, like in Atlanta or Los Angeles, so I knew it would be a long day. I got my worship playlist ready before I left home. While driving, I played the music, sang along, and prayed:

“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth in this very car as it is in heaven. There is peace in heaven so there is peace in this car.”

Suddenly, I realized that I was worshipping ahead of a spiritual battle! My attitude changed from concern to confidence. God was going ahead of me to prepare the way—and that He did.

Not only did the day go well, but my brother was smiling and talking to me like a friend by the end of the day. Even my brother's social worker was pleasantly surprised at his good mood. (You'll find the whole story of that day in *ReTested*^a chapter 12.)

a Cheryl Krichbaum, *ReTested: The Story of a Post-Abortive Woman Called to Change the Conversation* (OH: Author Academy Elite, 2019).

Praising God Ahead of Abortion Battles

As I praised God and marveled over the modern-day connection to an ancient piece of history, the Lord brought my thoughts back to the spiritual warfare of abortion, and I realized that we need to worship ahead of each battle. Abortion battles include but are not limited to:

- A woman considering an abortion or being pressured to abort
- Sex trafficking and women being forced to have abortions by their pimps
- More women choosing abortion because of an economic recession, global pandemic, or natural disaster
- Unfair policing of sidewalk counselors near an abortion facility
- Proposed legislation in committee or sent for vote
- Court cases
- Elections
- Getting balanced news to the people
- Sex education that promotes sex more than education
- Lack of funds for non-profit organizations that support women and families through adoption or parenting

Why Worship?

So often, our prayers overflow with requests rather than praise. Have you ever gathered for prayer and spent most of the time discussing everything that is going wrong? God already knows what we need!

*“Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.”
(Matthew 6:8 NASB)*

You know Jeremiah 29:11, but do you know verses 12 and 13?

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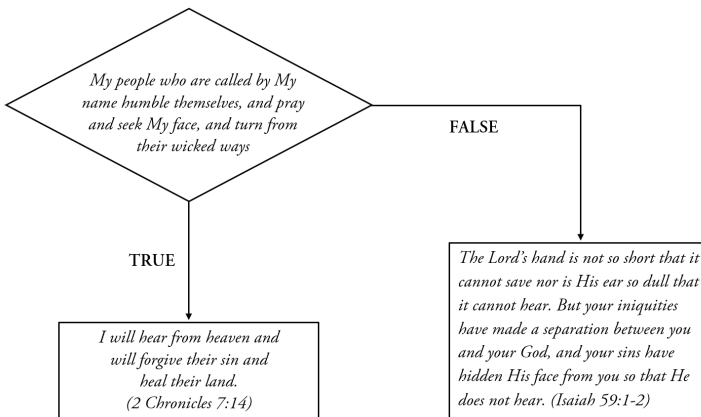
“For I know the plans that I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.” (Jeremiah 29:11-13 NASB)

As we face each battle, let us have a King Jehoshaphat approach. Rather than run to our own wisdom, let us first seek God.

King Jehoshaphat began his prayer by praising God for what He had done and what He had promised to the people.^a He quoted King Solomon’s words.^b God had responded to King Solomon’s words by saying:

If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14 NKJV)

This verse, which we often quote when we talk about revival or refreshing, is an if/then statement.



Rather than immediately praying for all the needs that we see, let us first seek His face, His kingdom, and His righteousness.^c

a 2 Chronicles 20:6-9

b 2 Chronicles 20:9, 2 Chronicles 6:28-30

c Matthew 6:33

Behold, the Lord's hand is not so short that it cannot save nor is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear. (Isaiah 59:1-2 NASB)

Seeking His righteousness means turning from our wicked ways and humbling ourselves.^a True worship brings us into a position of humbleness and reverence for our all-powerful and all-loving God—the God of justice and the God of agape love. God seeks true worshipers, who worship in spirit and truth.^b

Let us not be desperate for His hand before we are desperate for His face.

Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (Matthew 6:33 NASB)

Music & the Brain

Worship changes our focus from our requests to our relationship with God. Although we can worship God in words alone, worshiping God in song is more powerful. Have you noticed that for yourself?

We have thought that music is a right-brain activity, but recent studies have found that music is distributed throughout the brain. Nearly every area of the brain is engaged when listening to, composing, playing an instrument, or singing music.^c

a 2 Chronicles 7:14

b John 4:24

c Daniel J. Levitin, *This Is Your Brain on Music: The Science of a Human Obsession* (New York: Dutton, 2006), 9.

WORSHIP TO END ABORTION

Music itself is powerful. Movies use music to influence how we react to a scene. Elevator music calms us as we travel up and down floors. We use music to cheer ourselves up!^a

When I have felt down, I have turned on Christian music to lift my mood, but what has been even more effective is singing along with the music. Now my first recommendation to my friends who are struggling with difficult situations is to praise God in song even if they don't feel like it.^b

*Worship music is a frequency
of love between you and Our
Father.*

Think of worship music like a frequency of love between you and God. Worship with music to tune into God's frequency of love.

a Daniel J. Levitin, *This Is Your Brain on Music: The Science of a Human Obsession* (New York: Dutton, 2006), 9.

b If there were a thesis in my memoir, *ReTested*, this would be it.

Resources

Your Brain on Music

TEDx Talk by Alan Harvey youtu.be/MZFFwy5fwYI

From Perception to Pleasure: How Music Changes the Brain

TEDx Talk by Dr. Robert Zatorre youtu.be/KVX8j5s530s

Good Vibrations: The Science of Sound

World Science Festival panelists John Schaefer, Jamshed Bharucha, Christopher Shera, Jacob Kirkegaard, and instrumentalists Polygraph Lounge youtu.be/nsYt-FBhE2Q

Suggested Prayers

Day 4

What's your worship song or hymn for today? _____

What's your posture of worship for today?

- dancing/giddyng prostrating giving thanks
 praising in song/hymn kneeling confessing
 singing/making music serving God

2 Chronicles 20:1-17, 1 John 4:18

Lord, this abortion battle has me fearful, but I seek You and Your love, which casts out all fear.

Lord, do you want me to fast? How do You want me to fast? What do I need to give up so that I can better focus on You and hearing what You have to say?

Oh God, my Lord, are You not Ruler in heaven and do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In Your hand is power and might so that no one is able to withstand You.

I stand in Your temple of the Spirit and cry out to You in our affliction. Hear and save the babies, their mothers, and all others involved in this murderous attack on our generation. We have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us nor do we know what to do. We can do nothing without You!

Our eyes are upon You. The battle is not ours but Yours. We go out to face the enemy under Your direction. Position us, make us to stand firm and see Your salvation, knowing that You are with us.

Prayer for 40 Days for Life

Lord, encourage my brothers and sisters who are praying at abortion facilities to continually seek You and Your love and not give in to fear.

WORSHIP AHEAD OF THE BATTLE

Thank You for lifting their eyes up to You. Thank You for positioning them while they stand firm, knowing You are with them.

Day 5

What's your worship song or hymn for today? _____

What's your posture of worship for today?

- dancing/giddyding prostrating giving thanks
- praising in song/hymn kneeling confessing
- singing/making music serving God

Chronicles 20:18-22, 26-30

Lord, I bow my head with my face to the ground before You in worship. I stand and praise You with my voice loud and high! I believe in You, so I can stand firm. I sing to You, praising the beauty of holiness! I praise You for Your mercy endures forever!

Thank You, Lord for setting ambushes against evil, for defeating abortion. Thank You that our enemies wreck one other. When this battle is won, we will assemble and bless You, Lord, with joy with stringed instruments, harps, and trumpets. We trust that reverence for You will increase in all the nations when they hear that You fought against our enemies. We thank You for the rest that is to come when this battle is won.

Prayer for 40 Days for Life

Holy Spirit, prompt the 40 Days for Life prayer warriors to be worship warriors, praising the Lord in song. As they sing and make music, please set ambushes against the evil one, defeating abortion at the very facilities where they sing for joy. Remind them to stand firm in Your name. Deliver them from evil. Thank You for giving them rest.