



**TIMELESS TRUTH TRANSCRIPTS**  
June 2009 – Florence  
Praise God NOW!

Have you ever been in a situation where things have eventually turned out well after a time of difficulty and you want to praise God for this? Hi, this is Florence MacKenzie at Equipped for Living, and I think giving thanks to God for a good outcome is a right and appropriate thing to do. However, what do you do when you don't know what the outcome is going to be? Do you hold off praising God until you get a satisfactory result, or do you do what King Jehoshaphat did in 2 Chronicles 20? The king and his people were about to be attacked by a huge army that far outnumbered their resources. Jehoshaphat's response was to pray, acknowledging his own helplessness but looking to God for help. Later on in the chapter, he showed his confidence in God by instructing his singers to march at the head of his army with the purpose of praising God – and this was *before* they knew that the outcome would be successful! The lesson for us? Don't wait until the end of the story – praise God now!

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**TIMELESS TRUTH TRANSCRIPTS**  
June 2009 – James  
All messed up

Have you ever been in a situation where you've left God out of the picture, just done your own thing and got yourself into a complete mess? Well, the crazy life of a man called Micah, who we read about in the Old Testament book of Judges, shows us this clearly. In those days, everyone just did as he pleased, so Micah first of all stole a pile of money from his mother. When he gave it back, she praised him as if he had done something wonderful instead of scolding him for stealing it in the first place. To make matters worse, his mother used the money to make an idol as an act of worship to the Lord, even though God had completely forbidden the making of idols. Then Micah set up a shrine, made his son a priest, and then fired him and hired a professional – a Levite – to do the job for him. How messed up is all of that? This is precisely the kind of mess we can get into if we do our own thing and leave God completely out of the picture. Get the message? This is James MacKenzie at Equipped for Living.

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