

How To Deal With Unexpected Defeats

Psalm 60

Mark Kremer

As we have talked about many times, I believe we are a people on a mission. God has called us to be a part of the Kingdom of Heaven and building His Kingdom here and now. When the resurrection happened, the new Kingdom began. Jesus is today still very much alive and well and we are part of this Kingdom. We have been given this incredible mission as God's people to love folks and serve people and build the Kingdom of Christ.

And many of us in this room this morning live our lives on mission in building the Kingdom. We get up in the morning and we ask God, "What is it You want from me today? What can I do? How can I make a difference in my home? How can I make a difference in my work? How can I make a difference in my neighborhood? What is it that You want me to do? How can I be Your hands and feet today?"

And many of us get up everyday and we think about that and we live that and we desire that Kingdom-building perspective to be true in our lives. And we know that when we live that way, everything in life goes smoothly, right? I mean, it is just one victory to another, smooth sailing! Well, it isn't that way. In fact, we face many times when we're on mission and yet both individually and together, we face unexpected defeats and serious setbacks that sometimes cause us to stagger, to question, to fall back, to wonder, *What is the world is going on?*

I have watched this happen in my own life. I've seen it happen in the lives of many people that I care about. They love Christ and they're serving Him. And yet they face some incredible difficulties and defeats along the way.

One of the places we most often turn when we're facing experiences in life and we really don't know what to do with it is the Psalms. Because the Psalms are just the real stuff of life, they're the emotional response of godly people to almost every imaginable circumstance. And today, we're going to look at Psalm 60—as we begin our summer in the Psalms for this year—which talks about what do you do when as the people of God you experience defeat and setbacks.

So, if you have a Bible, turn with me to Psalm 60. We've been doing this for about the last 11 years, doing the summer in the Psalms. Bryan and I were talking this week, and I think we've done about 110 psalms. We're down to about the last 40 over the next couple of years. They just get a little bit harder and harder. When you think about the Psalms being poetry and music, to put it in that language, I think in the next few years we're down to the operas of the Psalms, we're down to the long arduous ones. Bryan started figuring out how to get through Psalm 119 in one summer. So, just plan on some long operatic Psalms coming up and I'm not going to be doing any of them.

But the psalms speak to real situations and real issues. And Psalm 60 speaks into this issue of what happens when the people of God experience a setback or defeat. The introduction to this Psalm starts really before verse one and we get some idea of what's going on here. It says,

For the choir director; according to Shushan Eduth. (Psalm 60; *NASB)

That's probably a tune, so it's a song that was to be sung in the church as a part of its processing this experience.

A Mikhtam of David, to teach;

Nobody knows for sure what Mikhtam actually means but maybe someday we'll find out. But this psalm was meant to teach, it's meant to be an example to us that we could learn from the example of Israel facing a defeat and a difficulty to know how we can respond as God's people today. And then he talks about what was happening—what were the historical circumstances under which it was written.

when he struggled with Aram-naharaim and with Aram-zobah, and Joab returned, and smote twelve thousand of Edom in the Valley of Salt.

The historical context for this is found in II Samuel 8 and I Chronicles 18, and I would encourage you to go back and to read those texts. Actually, the setting for this is during the pinnacle of David's power and success. David was conquering nation after nation after nation. And he was driving out the enemies and claiming and laying hold of the land that God had given them.

But, it's in the middle of that that this Psalm comes when he struggled in particular against the Edomites. Ultimately we learn even from the inscription that they prevailed, and Joab who was the head of the military for David, conquered and slayed 12,000 in the Valley of Salt.

But that ultimate victory is not what David is feeling right at the moment as he pens this. In the first section of this Psalm, which is the first four verses, he lays out what is going on. Verse 1:

**O God, You have rejected us. You have broken us;
You have been angry; O, restore us.
You have made the land quake, You have split it open;
Heal its breaches, for it totters.
You have made Your people experience hardship;
You have given us wine to drink that makes us stagger.** (Psalm 60:1-3)

This defeat left David with three very powerful images in his head that he writes down on paper and he pours out before God. The first one is in verse 1 and is the sense of personal rejection. That God is angry with them and has rejected them and scattered them. There is a deep emotional pain that David feels as the leader of the nation of Israel because he feels like God is angry and has rejected them.

The second powerful image is in verse 2 when he says, "You have made the land quake, and split it open for it totters." It is an image of an earthquake, of the land being shaken and rattled and the buildings crashing down and what's left standing is just tottering. It is very unstable and there are breaches and there are cracks in the ground and the whole thing is unsettling and on shaky ground. He just feels completely insecure, and he says, "*God, I need you to heal the breaches, close the gaps, bring stability to this situation. But it feels out of control and it we feel like we've experienced an earthquake.*"

The third image is one of God giving them wine and making them drunk. Verse 3:

**You have made Your people experience hardship;
You have given us wine to drink that makes us stagger.**

He says, “This defeat feels like you’ve poured wine into us and given us wine until we’re just in a drunken stupor staggering around reeling under these circumstances, not knowing which way is up, we just feel drunk because of the overwhelming nature of this experience.”

Those are three very powerful images that we can relate to in different ways. There’s a fourth image that’s in verse 4. Verse 4 is a little hard to understand, but there are a couple of words that could have a couple of different meanings. I think we understand when it says,

You have given a banner to those who fear You,

If you watch *Braveheart* or any of those kinds of movies, you’ll always see that when the armies go out, there’s always the flag, there’s the standard, there’s the banner. And that’s where they get their directions for fighting. Are they charging ahead? Are they retreating back? The banner tells you where the King is and what the orders are. And so you have the idea of a banner, that there’s a banner that those who fear God are looking to.

The question is, What’s the banner saying? In the second half of that verse, it says, **That it may be displayed**, that word could either be displayed or unfurled or it could be that we might flee. The word could also mean that we could flee. And **because of the truth** and truth could also mean the bow because we might flee because of the bow, because of the strength of the army in front of us. But, even if the word is truth, it could be because of the reality of the situation.

Needless to say, I think what David is saying here, is that even though ones who fear God are left to look to the banner—where is it; what are we supposed to do in this circumstance—and in a sense, they’re retreating back to the banner to try to figure out where do we go from here, they’re rallying back to God to try to figure out, *what do we do in the middle of this defeat, in the middle of this setback?*

Now, it’s very interesting, as I mentioned, that David was off conquering nations. In fact, most people would believe that this particular defeat was at the hands of the Edomites, that was the kingdom just to the south of Israel. And that it took place while David and all of his armies were off at the Euphrates River. I mean, they had driven the enemies to the east, all the way to the Euphrates, all the way to where Bagdad is today.

So, David and the armies of God are far, far away from Jerusalem, and while they’re gone and enjoying this great victory, in come the Edomites behind and give this devastating defeat. And it is that picture that sometimes in the middle of the greatest moments where we feel like we’re really making a difference and the Kingdom is advancing and we’re growing and all those things are happening, that there can be those really devastating moments where something comes along that defeats us, discourages us, that is a setback in our work, in our experience.

Now the kingdom of Israel was a geographical, political place. They were the representatives of God on Earth at the time but it was a political kingdom. So, what’s the relative understanding for us today? How do we take this and apply it into our century and our life today?

We’re now in the Kingdom of Heaven, we’re not in the kingdom of Israel. And it’s not a geographical or political kingdom, it’s a spiritual Kingdom. One day it will become a real, Kingdom on earth, right? When Jesus comes back again. But, the Kingdom is alive, it’s well but we’re building the Kingdom; it’s a spiritual Kingdom; it’s alive in the hearts of God’s people and we’re

about His mission. So, the comparison to what they were experiencing is that when there's a setback among the people of God, when there's a defeat that we experience that leaves us reeling and wondering, *God, where are you and what are You doing?*

Now, it's interesting that in this particular Psalm that David does not go on to question God, he doesn't say, *God, why are you doing this?* Perhaps he was very clear and understood exactly why God was allowing this to happen. But, there are many psalms where David does question so the questioning of why isn't necessarily a bad thing. But, we can sometimes get stuck there. Why, why, why? And frankly, we may never know the why. The bigger question is, God you need to do something. God, what do you want me to do? God, how should we respond to this situation?

And that's really what David's doing here, he's not questioning why. It may very well have been because there was sin somewhere and God brought judgment and a setback or a defeat as a way of disciplining them. That happened in the life of Israel. Remember when they first went into the land and conquered Jericho and they were going on to Ai, it should have been an easy town to take.

But, one family sinned and they were defeated as a people because of the sin of one. And we are reminded that we are connected together in the Kingdom of Heaven, and what you and I do in our lives does have an impact on the bigger picture of the Kingdom in this world. We are not isolated individuals just doing our own thing for Jesus. We are a part of the Kingdom of Heaven, we are a part of the Church of Jesus Christ and what happens in your life and my life matters and it affects other people and it ought to cause us to live holy lives before God because it does impact and influence other people.

I think we've experienced that even where the Church itself has really experienced setbacks. When well-known leaders have fallen into sin and brought disgrace to the name of Christ and caused even the people in your office, the people you're trying to reach to question and mock and scoff the Christian message. Does my life make a difference in the Kingdom? Yes, it does! And I ought to be sobered by the fact that my sin could literally bring harm to the cause of Christ, bring defeat to the Kingdom of God.

Now there are other times where that defeat happens because we're off running ahead of God. We're just off doing our thing. We start to experience a little bit of success, we start seeing things happen, you know, and good things begin to happen and we think, *you know what, we're on a roll man; we're just making things happen*, and it's going and we keep going and going and we just think we're going to handle it on our own. We can manage this thing; we can build a Kingdom in our own human effort.

That may very well have been what happened here. David is just taking army after army and nation after nation and he's way off at the Euphrates and God may be saying, *now hold it just a minute, I didn't want you to be conqueror of the world. I wanted you to lead My people*. And he brought this defeat to remind David they were getting ahead of God. They were running ahead of God, and they weren't being dependent on Him anymore. And sometimes God allows defeat and setbacks to teach us that we need to slow down and stop and listen to God and follow His direction. We need His help, and we better not run far out ahead.

There are other times that the defeat or the setback is just a way, in the short term, of allowing God to show His glory and power in a much greater way out of that defeat. There is no cause or reason other than the fact that in the middle of our defeat, we respond rightly to God and He does

something even more amazing and wonderful out of that setback, out of that defeat than He could've done. It would have been a much greater display of His power and glory coming out of a setback than it was if we'd have just gone on and everything would have been smooth.

Now, we've experienced that in our life, in our family where, you know, some difficult circumstances have allowed God's glory to show in a greater way and it's actually brought advance to the Kingdom. So, He doesn't tell us the reason but the point is that when we experience that, we have to pour our hearts out to God. David doesn't get bitter; he doesn't get angry; he doesn't get cynical. He doesn't pull back; he just stops and he cries out to God. And he said, "God, this is how I'm feeling; this is the situation and we need You to restore it. We need you to heal. And I need You to answer, because we're in deep trouble."

Notice at the end of verse four is that little word *Selah* which really probably means a musical term; it means an interlude. Sort of like between choruses or verses of a song, we take time and the instruments just play. And the intention of that is just to stop and think. One of the things that we have a tendency to do when we're in the middle of crisis is to react. Is that not true of you? You just kind of react. The first thing that comes to my mind is, *oh, I'm going to get even or I'm gonna...I'm gonna...* and we just start going instead of stopping and coming before God and pouring out the situation before God, listening to Him, seeking His counsel to know how to respond and I think that *Selah's* here just to say stop, reflect on it, think about it, go before God just like David did in this circumstance.

And that's exactly what you and I need to do when we experience a temporary or unexpected defeat or serious setback. Now with verses 5-8, we have the next section. David cries out specifically for God to respond to this situation. He says,

**That Your beloved may be delivered,
Save with Your right hand, and answer us!**

Now it's very interesting that even though in the first verse, David described feeling rejected by God, that he felt that God was angry with him, in verse five, he still knows that they are the beloved of God. They're still the people of God. And even though in the circumstances at the moment it feels like God is angry and distant and they're tottering and they're staggering, God still loves them. David says, "We're still Your people. And I know You still love us, and I need You to save with Your right hand."

The right hand of God always represents God's power and His might. And David is saying, "God, I need You to step forward in power and might in the middle of this defeat and to bring about a change. And I need You to answer me, show us what we should do, speak to me. Speak truth to me so I have a right perspective as I face this challenge, this difficulty, this defeat." And that's exactly what happens, verse 6:

God has spoken in His holiness: (v. 6a)

That's in the perfect tense. It means that God spoke the words we're about to read, and they are truth. This is not just a word from God, you know, a little word of encouragement or the Spirit giving us a prompting or something like that, this is God saying, "I have spoken into this situation. It's recorded in the Scriptures; it is truth; you can bank on it; these are the promises that I have that are speaking to the situation and they're recorded in Scripture." What exactly are those promises?

Well, God talks through and gives David the history of this land and what God has said about the nation of Israel.

"I will exult, I will portion out Shechem and measure out the valley of Succoth. (v. 6b)

First of all, he says, "I celebrate or I rejoice over this land; this is My land. These are My people; this is My land; I chose this place for My people to dwell." God loves this land; and He loves these people. He exults over them. And He says, "**I will portion out Shechem and measure out the valley of Succoth.**" Shechem and Succoth represent some of the two earliest places where God's people went into the land and possessed it. It goes all the way back to Genesis Chapter 12, where Abraham first went into the promised land, and he came to Shechem, which is in the land of Israel, and he settled there.

It was the very first hint that God was going to give the people the land to possess. Jacob, several generations later, came to Succoth in his journeys and he settled there and built booths there and they lived there and they dwelt there for a time. Again, this is a reminder that this is the land that God had promised from the very beginning. Going all the way back to Genesis, God had given the land to these people. And then He goes on to say,

**"Gilead is Mine, and Manasseh is Mine;
Ephraim also is the helmet of My head;
Judah is My scepter.** (v. 7)

He mentions some of the tribes of Israel, from the East to the West, from the North to the South. He said, "I have given this land to you; it is Mine. The Kingdom is Mine. And not only is it Mine, all of it is Mine, from East to West, from North to South, but I have put you as My people in it and you are partners with Me in it. Ephraim is my helmet, the helmet of my head, the tribe to the North. Judah is My scepter; it's where My rule comes from. I'm in partnership with you. You not only possess the land that I've given to you and I exult over it, but I am in a relationship with you and you are useful to Me. And we're working together to build the Kingdom." That's the promise that God gives to the people of Israel.

But, He doesn't only give them the promise related to how God will use them and their land but He also speaks about His promise to the enemies of Israel. Verse 8:

**"Moab is My washbowl;
Over Edom I shall throw My shoe;
Shout loud, O Philistia, because of Me!"** [or I shout loud over Philistia, I will shout over Philistia]

What He's saying is these enemies, Philistia and Edom and Moab, are really nothing to God. I mean, Moab is just like a hand basin God washes His hands in. And Philistia is so nothing, He said, "I toss My shoe over them like they're just nothing. It's like they're the dogs sitting by the end of the ottoman and you just toss your shoe over them. I mean, you know, it's just nothing, no big deal; they're no big deal to Me. I shout aloud over Philistia. I mean, I'm so much bigger and so much greater than these enemies, these enemies are nothing compared to Me."

And God gives them these amazing and great promises about the Kingdom and reminds them that He is God and the Kingdom is His and there ultimately will be victory. All of these things will come to pass, because God has promised it to be so.

So, the question for us if we're not all that interested in Manasseh and Shechem and all those places, because we're not in the kingdom of Israel, we're in the Kingdom of Heaven, what are the promises of God related to the Kingdom of Heaven? What are the promises for us when we're facing defeat and setbacks? Promises that we need to go back to and hang on to and claim and listen to and believe that will allow us to understand what we're going through and how to go forward from here? Where do we go in the Scriptures, and what promises has God given to us that are as sure and secure as these promises to the people of Israel?

Well, there are many hundreds of those kind of promises. Here are just a couple that came to my mind as I was thinking about it this week. This is why we need to be in the Scriptures; this is why we need to go back and live in the promises of God, because in the moment where there's defeat or setback is not the time to be scrambling to try to figure out, *where in the Bible are those promises again?*

We need to know those promises; we need to be able to go back to those places and remind ourselves again what God has said and is true. I think of Matthew 28:18-20 when Jesus said at the end of His time on earth after He had risen from the dead, "All authority in Heaven and on Earth is given to Me." That's the truth! In the Kingdom of Heaven, all authority belongs to Jesus—in heaven and on earth. So, He says, "Because I have all the authority, I'm sending you out. Go, make disciples, teach, baptize, bring people up in the Kingdom. And lo, I am with you always to the very end of the age." Is that not one of the great promises for us? It doesn't matter what you're facing, God is there with you. He's in it with us. He's never going to leave us. He's never going to forsake us. And He's got all authority in heaven and earth.

I think of things like John 14 that we looked at a few weeks back where Jesus said, "I'm going to send my spirit, the spirit of truth. And He will lead you into all truth, and He will teach you and He will be with you and He will empower you. He will be a source of life to you." That's a promise in the New Testament of the Kingdom of Heaven! We have the Spirit of God—His very presence to empower us and lead us and guide us through whatever we face.

I think of John 16:33 where Jesus very clearly said, "In this world you will have trouble, but take heart because I have overcome the world! That's the promise of God. I can take heart in the middle of defeat and setback because He has overcome the world!

I think of Romans 8:28. How many of us have gone there in times of defeat and setback to say, "All things work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose." Is that a promise that you can hang onto in the midst of defeat and setback? No matter what it is, it's passed through the hand of God and it will work together for good. How about the end, the rest of Romans 8, where he says nothing can separate us from the love of God. Nothing! Neither life nor death nor principalities nor powers, none of this stuff! It's sort of the same thing we were singing about in *A Mighty Fortress is our God*.

The gates of Hell will not prevail against the Church! Nothing can separate us from the love of God! And in all these things, Paul ends in Romans 8, we are more than conquerors through Him who loves us. Those are the promises of God. When we face a setback or a defeat, we need to go back to those promises and reclaim them and live in them and believe in them because they are the thing that will allow us to see our way through and out of the present circumstance.

Well, David lived in those promises and God spoke to him and he was reminded of the fact that the kingdom was given to him and that God was going to be in it and that His throne was going to be established and David got all that. But, I love the reality of this Psalm, and I love how David is just so honest and so real because as David sat in the sanctuary reminding himself of the promises of God, he knew there was still an enemy outside that had to be conquered. And that's where he turns in the last section of this psalm. Verse 9:

**Who will bring me into the besieged city?
Who will lead me to Edom?**

I mean, it's like he's saying, "God, those promises are great and wonderful. I mean, I love glorying in them in the worship service but tomorrow morning, there's still a city out there that we've got to conquer. There's still a nation that's up against us, and I haven't a clue what to do about that." There's still the reality of the situation and verse 10, David goes back again to talk to God about what seems to be God abandoning them. "How in the world am I going to go in and take this city and conquer this enemy when..."

**Have not You Yourself, O God, rejected us?
And will You not go forth with our armies, O God?**

I mean, David's coming to this reality that the promises are great but if God isn't going to go out with the army and if he's rejected, there is no way on earth they're going to be able to take those enemies. There's no way to conquer them on their own. And that's the reality of the situation. The promises of God are great, but alone in our own human effort, we will never be able to fulfill or accomplish the task that's in front of us. We'll never dig ourselves out of the hole.

And that's where he comes in verse 11, which is the turning point where he begins to see the light at the end of the tunnel. He begins to see how this whole defeat and setback can become a great victory. Verse 11:

**O give us help against the adversary,
For deliverance by man is in vain.**

David comes to the realization that human strength, human effort apart from God will never build the Kingdom, will never defeat the enemy. They'll never take the land because they're trusting in horses and chariots and soldiers and swords, but God is going to have to help. God needs to step in and this is that moment. It is a very humble request before God, "God, I need Your help. I need Your help. I cannot do this on my own."

That is a turning point in your life and my life. In our efforts to build a Kingdom, if we start thinking that we can do great things for God in our own human effort, we're going to experience major setbacks and defeats and we're going to have to come to a point of saying, "God, I can't do this." You and I know this as mom's and dad's. You know, you can want your kids to walk with Jesus, know Jesus, be a part of the Kingdom, you can teach them, you can pray over them but ultimately I cannot change a child's heart. I can't change my neighbor's heart; I can't change the people at work's hearts; I can't change my enemy's heart; I can't make everything right; I can't right every injustice; I can't do that in my own human effort. God You're going to have build the Kingdom. You're going to have to show up. The only way this is going to happen is if You do the work.

And that becomes the turning point for David. The light begins to come on. He begins to see the hope, because God has promised that He will come alongside, that He is available to us, that He is in the battle with us, that the land is His and it's not just an old promise written in some pages from centuries ago. It is the reality of God's presence today in our lives, in the Kingdom, that it's God's Kingdom and He's at work and He wants to be in partnership with us to accomplish His purpose.

And so, David ends this Psalm with this wonderful closing verse, Verse 12:

Through God we shall do valiantly,

That word valiantly means to go in strength, to have great influence and impact. Through God, we shall have great influence and impact. Through God, we will accomplish the mission, through God we will conquer the enemy, through God we shall build the Kingdom. It's not on our own, it's through God; it's by His strength, by His might, by His power. But it is still us that have to go out and fight the battle. It isn't, "Oh God, go out and fight the enemy. I'm going to sit here. I'm scared." No, through God, we shall do valiantly. We will go out and have impact; we're in a partnership with Him.

But we live in the reality that it is His strength, His might, His power that actually accomplishes the purpose. And that's true for you and for me no matter what the defeat, no matter what the enemy, no matter what things or situations we face, God is the one that needs to go with us. He needs to be fully in charge as the King. And we go out and take His hand and together we go out to accomplish what He wants us to accomplish.

That's the way out of the defeat, out of the setback, into victory, through our God, we shall do valiantly and it is He, David ends:

And it is He [God] who will tread down our adversaries.

Immediately, our minds go back to, "Where else has God spoken about crushing or treading on the enemy?" It goes all the way back to Genesis, Chapter 3, doesn't it? When Adam and Eve had sinned, and God came and spoke to them in the garden. And He talked about all the consequences of their sin but He said, there will be coming a Messiah, someone who would crush the head of the serpent. That the enemy would ultimately be defeated, that he would be conquered, and it will be God who will tread down the enemies. Whatever those enemies may be—they may be external; they may be internal.

And again, we're not just talking about our little world, you know, our little life, certainly that's a part of it because we're a part of the Kingdom. But, there is a broad application to the church—to our church, and to God's people worldwide—that we face setbacks. There are challenges in building the Kingdom and taking the message to the ends of the earth. How many people do we know who have been on the cutting edge who have really gone out to lay it on the line, their lives on the line for Christ, who've experienced incredible heartache, incredible suffering, incredible difficulty? But through God, we shall do valiantly.

You think about those missionaries years and years ago in Ecuador where those men were killed by the tribal people they were trying to reach. And yet, in the end, God reached the tribe. Lives were transformed, the victory was won.

And as we seek to be the people of God and build the Kingdom, we're going to face challenges and difficulties and setbacks. Don't be lulled into thinking it's all going to be smooth sailing. There will be times when we'll feel overwhelmed, and we'll wonder, *God, we're doing this all for You. What in the world is going on?* And in those moments we're going to have to go back to the promises of God and say, "What have you said, God? I'm going to stand on those promises, and then I'm going to acknowledge that I cannot, will not, go out and try to do this in my own human effort. But, I will ask You to go before me. I will take Your hand and together we will go out and do valiantly. And You will tread down the enemy. You will ultimately win the victory. The Kingdom of God will be established. All other kingdoms will be supplanted and done away with and the Kingdom of Heaven and the one true King will reign." And that's what we all long for, because He is a good and worthy King.

There's just one last application that I want to make this morning and it's to us as dad's since it's Father's Day. You know, we have been given a piece of the Kingdom to lead, it's a little part of the army, that we're the little head, the commander, the lieutenant, whatever you want to call yourself, I don't want to get too carried away with military talk there, dad. But that's our piece, and our building of the Kingdom starts with that.

And we want to introduce our kids to the King. We want them to be part of the Kingdom. We want to work with them and help them to know Jesus and experience life in the Kingdom of Heaven. But we want more than that, don't we? We want our kids to be warriors in the Kingdom. We want our kids to get involved and be led by God to make a difference in this world. We want their lives to count. We want them to have impact. And many of us in this room as dads are laying it down day in and day out to see that reality happen in our families.

But there is the hard fact, there are going to be setbacks and defeats along the way. There will be challenges that we will never have been able to imagine that we would face. But we cannot give up. We cannot lose heart, and we certainly cannot go out and just try to suck it up and try a little bit harder. We must acknowledge that God, only God, can do the work of building the Kingdom in our home. And we cry out to God, "You have to do this!"

But through Him, we shall do valiantly. It is He who will tread down our enemies, and God ultimately will prevail. And our kids and our grandkids and our great grandkids can generations from now, long after they have even forgotten our name will still be living for the Kingdom, building the Kingdom because we understood Psalm 60—when the defeat comes and the setback comes, we cry out to God! We acknowledge our absolute dependence on Him, and we go forward in His strength and His might to fulfill the purpose He has.

Our Father, I pray that You would take these words, Your words, Your truth, Your promises and enlighten our hearts, our minds that we might understand and believe and go forth in Your might. No matter how dark, how difficult the setback or defeat we're staring into the face of, You are greater, You are bigger, You will ultimately prevail, You are the King of Kings and we trust in You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Lincoln Berean Church, 6400 S. 70th, Lincoln, NE 68516 (402) 483-6512
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