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Called out of Defeat  
I Samuel 4

### Dealing with Defeat:

I Sam. 4:19-22 *Now his daughter-in-law, Phinehas's wife, was pregnant and about to give birth; and when she heard the news that the ark of God was taken and that her father-in-law and her husband had died, she knelt down and gave birth, for her pains came upon her. 20 And about the time of her death the women who stood by her said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have given birth to a son." But she did not answer or pay attention. 21 And she called the boy Ichabod, saying, "The glory has departed from Israel," because the ark of God was taken and because of her father-in-law and her husband. 22 She said, "The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God was taken."*

### Errant Belief: We will always be victorious.

#### I. ...We are \_\_\_\_\_.

Deut. 20:4 *"For the LORD your God is the one who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you."*

Psalms 20:7-8 *Some boast in chariots and some in horses, but we will boast in the name of the LORD, our God. 8 They have bowed down and fallen, but we have risen and stood upright.*

I Sam. 4:1-3a *Thus the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out to meet the Philistines in battle and camped beside Ebenezer while the Philistines camped in Aphek. 2 The Philistines drew up in battle array to meet Israel. When the battle spread, Israel was defeated before the Philistines who killed about four thousand men on the battlefield. 3 When the people came into the camp, the elders of Israel said, "Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines?"*

#### II. ... We have \_\_\_\_\_.

I Sam. 4:3-11 *Let us take to ourselves from Shiloh the ark of the covenant of the LORD, that it may come among us and deliver us from the power of our enemies." 4 So the people sent to Shiloh, and from there they carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD of hosts who sits above the cherubim; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, were there with the ark of the covenant of God. 5 As the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel shouted with a great shout, so that the earth resounded. 6 When the Philistines heard the noise of the shout, they said, "What does the noise of this great shout in the camp of the Hebrews mean?" Then they understood that the ark of the LORD had come into the camp. 7 The Philistines were afraid, for they said, "God has come into the camp." And they said, "Woe to us! For nothing like this has happened before. 8 Woe to us! Who shall deliver us from the hand of these mighty gods? These are the gods who smote the Egyptians with all kinds of plagues in the wilderness. 9 Take courage and be men, O Philistines, or you will become slaves to the Hebrews, as they have been slaves to you; therefore, be men and fight." 10 So the Philistines fought and Israel was defeated, and every man fled to his tent; and the slaughter was very great, for there fell of Israel thirty thousand foot soldiers. 11 And the ark of God was taken; and the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, died.*

Joshua 6:4-5 *"Also seven priests shall carry seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark; then on the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. It shall be that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people will go up every man straight ahead."*

#### Point:

#### Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!

1. What is my "Ichabod?" What is the time or event in my life when I felt like God's glory had left me?
2. When have I faced defeat in life? What discouragement am I facing currently?
3. How do I allow the discouragements of life drive me away from God and God's call on my life?
4. When have I seen God use defeat in the past to redirect my life toward His perfect plan?



If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/ Pastor Todd about your relationship with Christ, please email [pastortodd@thevineva.org](mailto:pastortodd@thevineva.org) or call 703-573-5836 to set up an appointment.