



# How a Church Responds to Defeat and Victory

A CHURCH THAT  
COUNTS

*"Who can understand the human heart? There is nothing else so deceitful; it is too sick to be healed."* Jeremiah 17:9

*"The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance but the Lord looks at the heart."* 1 Samuel 16:7

(Paul to the Philippians) *"You are always in my heart!"* Philippians 1:7

(God) *"David is a man after My own heart. . ."*  
Acts 13:22



# FOUR TESTS OF A GREAT HEART

1. First test: SIN

David's response:

A REPENTANT HEART

*"Create a pure heart in me, O God, and put a new and loyal spirit in me." Psalm 51:10*

# 1. First test: SIN

David's response:

A REPENTANT HEART

*"Sir, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your family." At that very hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; and he and all his family were baptized at once." Acts 16:29, 31, 33*

## 2. Second test: STRESS

David's response:

A TRUSTING HEART

*"In my distress I prayed to the Lord  
and He answered me and rescued  
me. He is for me! How can I be  
afraid?" Psalm 118:5-6*

## 2. Second test: STRESS

David's response:

### A TRUSTING HEART

*"I want to report to you, friends, that my imprisonment here has had the opposite of its intended effect. Instead of being squelched, the Message has actually prospered. All the soldiers here, and everyone else, too, found out that I'm in jail because of this Messiah."*

Philippians 1:12-13

### 3. Third test: SERVICE

Both responses:

#### A SERVANT'S HEART

##### 1. WHOLE HEARTEDLY

*"With all my heart I try to serve You . . ."*

Psalm 119:10

*"I always pray with joy because of the way in which you have helped me in the work of the gospel from the very first day until now." Philippians 1:4b-5*

### 3. Third test: SERVICE

Both responses:

#### A SERVANT'S HEART

##### 2. FOCUSED

*"Keep me from paying attention to what is worthless." Psalm 119:38*

*"But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me." Philippians 3:12*

### 3. Third test: SERVICE

Both responses:

### A SERVANT'S HEART

#### 3. SACRIFICIALLY

*"I will not offer to the Lord sacrifices that have cost me nothing." 2 Samuel 24:24*

*"Perhaps my life's blood is to be poured out like an offering on the sacrifice that your faith offers to God. If that is so, I am glad and share my joy with you all." Philippians 2:17*

## 4. Fourth test: SUCCESS

David's response:

### A HUMBLE HEART

1. All praise goes to God  
for any success.

*"In everything David did he had great success, because the Lord was with him." 1 Samuel 18:14*

4. Fourth test: SUCCESS

David's response:

A HUMBLE HEART

*"I thank my God for you every  
time I think of you;"*

Philippians 1:3

## 4. Fourth test: SUCCESS

David's response:

### A HUMBLE HEART

#### 2. Acknowledging the truth brings balance.

*"Judgment does not come from the east or from the west, from the north or from the south; it is God who is the judge, condemning some and acquitting others." Psalm 75:6-7*

4. Fourth test: **SUCCESS**

David's response:

**A HUMBLE HEART**

2. **Acknowledging the truth**  
**brings balance.**

*"And so I am sure that God, who began this good work in you, will carry it on until it is finished on the Day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:6*

## 4. Fourth test: SUCCESS

David's response:

### A HUMBLE HEART

## 3. Aiming for people to use and bless.

*"For the eyes of the Lord search back and forth across the whole earth, looking for people whose hearts are perfect toward Him, so He can show His great power in helping them!"*

2 Chronicles 16:9

## 4. Fourth test: SUCCESS

David's response:

A HUMBLE HEART

## 3. Aiming for people to use and bless.

*"For you have all shared with me in this privilege that God has given me, both now that I am in prison and also while I was free to defend the gospel and establish it firmly."*

Philippians 1:7b

## 4. Fourth test: SUCCESS

David's response:


### A HUMBLE HEART

#### 4. Accepting the purpose of the timeliness of the times to serve.

*"For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, died."*

Acts 13:36

*"Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?"* Esther 4:14



*"As for me, my life has already  
been poured out as an offering  
to God. The time of my death is  
near. I have fought the good  
fight, I have finished the race,  
and I have remained faithful."*

2 Timothy 4:6-7