Ups and Downs

In your life, do you seem to experience more ups or more downs?

Read 1 Kings 22:1-53.

- 1. Why did Jehoshaphat agree to team up with wicked King Ahab (vs 4)?
 - A. Ahab wasn't that wicked.
 - B. Jehoshaphat was just as wicked as Ahab.
 - C. Jehoshaphat wanted to make alliances with nearby kings.
 - D. This was an attempt to unite Judah with the tribes of Israel.
 - E. Ahab and Jehoshaphat were related through marriage (2 Ch. 18:1).
 - F. They shared a common enemy—Aram.
 - G. Jehoshaphat simply followed Ahab's lead.
 - H. Jehoshaphat wasn't in full agreement with Ahab.
 - I. Other.
- 2. Why consult with Yahweh after saying "Yes" to Ahab (vs 5)?
 - A. Jehoshaphat always asked God for input.
 - B. Getting confirmation from God is a good thing to do.
 - C. Asking God after deciding kept Jehoshaphat in charge.
 - D. Jehoshaphat had some reservations about Ahab's plan.
 - E. It's dangerous to follow a wicked leader/king.
 - F. Jehoshaphat was looking for a good way out of this situation.
 - G. He wanted to see his good friend Micaiah.
 - H. Jehoshaphat didn't trust Ahab's 400 prophets.
 - I. Other.
- 3. What message did Micaiah deliver?
 - A. The same message as Ahab's prophets.
 - B. The opposite message of Ahab's prophets.
 - C. Only what God told him to say.
 - D. Micaiah taunted King Ahab.
 - E. The death of Ahab.
 - F. The death of Jehoshaphat.
 - G. He was the true prophet and all the others were false prophets.
 - H. A message both kings chose to obey.
 - I. Other.

- 4. How did things go in the battle?
 - A. Just the way Ahab and Jehoshaphat hoped.
 - B. Just the way Micaiah prophesied.
 - C. Ahab avoided the attack by disguising himself.
 - D. Jehoshaphat was the main target of the enemy.
 - E. Jehoshaphat proved to be a scaredy cat.
 - F. The Israelites reclaimed Ramoth-Gilead.
 - G. The Arameans maintained control of Ramoth-Gilead.
 - H. Other.
- 5. How would you summarize Jehoshaphat's rule as the king of Judah?
 - A. More good than bad.
 - B. More bad than good.
 - C. Wishy-washy.
 - D. He did the best he could do.
 - E. It seems 2 Chronicles 17-20 records more positive things about him.
 - F. Too many alliances with pagan rulers.
 - G. Major trust in God (2 Chronicles 20).
 - H. Other.
- 6. How would you summarize your life so far?
 - A. More good than bad.
 - B. More bad than good.
 - C. Wishy-washy.
 - D. I've done the best I can.
 - E. It depends on who you ask.
 - F. It's more of a journey than just one moment in time.
 - G. Lately things have gotten better.
 - H. Lately things have gotten worse.
 - I. Other.

7. Does interaction with wicked people strengthen your commitment to God or weaken it?

8. What's an example of you consciously choosing something because of God? What's an example of you unconsciously doing something without God?