

Avoiding Burnout

Exodus 15-17;

Numbers 11, 13 and 14

Life of Moses

The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening. Ex. 18:13

He asked the Lord, “Why have you brought this trouble on your servant? What have I done to displease you that you put the burden of all these people on me? Exodus 11:11

Did I conceive all these people? Did I give them birth? Why do you tell me to carry them in my arms, as a nurse carries an infant, to the land you promised on oath to their forefathers? Where can I get meat for all these people? They keep

wailing to me, 'Give us meat to eat!' **Numbers 11:12-14**

Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, together with Moses' sons and wife, came to him in the desert, where he was camped near the mountain of God. **Exodus 18:5**

Jethro had sent word to him, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons." **Exodus 18:6**

So Moses went out to meet his father-in-law and bowed down and kissed him. They greeted each other and then went into the tent. **Exodus 18:7**

A question of Priorities and Personnel

When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, "What is this you

are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?"

Exodus 18:14

Moses feeling trapped

Moses answered him, "Because the people come to me to seek God's will. Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God's decrees and laws." **Exodus 18:15-16**

Moses' father-in-law replied, "What you are doing is not good. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone. Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you." **Exodus 18:17-19**

But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens.

Exodus 18:21

*Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every difficult case to you; the simple cases they can decide themselves. That will make your load lighter, because they will share it with you. **Exodus 18:22***

Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said.

Exodus 18:24

Management lessons we can learn from Moses

1. Acknowledge your Limitations

2. Establish your Priorities

3. Delegate Responsibility

4. Stay Informed

5. Accept Responsibility

***The church is not a performance
for you to enjoy.***

***We are a body where each of us
has a particular function.***

*It was he who gave some to be
apostles, some to be prophets,
some to be evangelists, and some
to be pastors and teachers, to
prepare God's people for works of
service, so that the body of Christ
may be built up until we all reach
unity in the faith and in the
knowledge of the Son of God and
become mature, attaining to the
whole measure of the fullness of
Christ. **Ephesians 4:11-13***

*for zeal for your house consumes
me, and the insults of those who
insult you fall on me.*

Psalm 69:9