

# LIFE OF MOSES

## HOW TO FIND BALANCE IN LIFE

### EXODUS 18

#### I. A REUNION v. 1-8

##### A. Moses' family v.1-5

1. v.2 "after he had sent her away"
2. v.3,4 mention Moses' two sons
3. Jethro and Moses' family came to Moses in the wilderness v. 5,6
4. Notice that Moses went out to meet Jethro v.7

##### B. Moses' mentor v. 6,7

##### C. Moses' friend v. 7,8

##### D. Moses told Jethro all that had happened to the Israelites v.8

1. all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh
2. He also told Jethro of the "hardships" that had befallen them and how the LORD had delivered them

##### E. Jethro's response v.9-12

1. Rejoicing v.9
2. Blessed the LORD v.10
3. He declared the greatness of God v. 11
4. A burnt offering v.12
5. Everything is great

## II. A COMMON DAY IN THE LIFE OF MOSES v.13-16

### A. Moses sat to judge the people v.13

1. "From morning until the evening v.13

### B. Jethro questioned Moses v.14

1. "What is this thing you are doing for the people?"
2. "Why do you alone sit as judge?"
3. "and all the people stand about you"
4. What stands out to you from Jethro's words here?

### D. Moses' response v. 15,16

1. "the people come to me to inquire of God" v.15
2. "When they have a dispute, it comes to me"
3. "and I judge between a man and his neighbor"
4. "and I make known the statutes of God and His laws."
5. Any of those things bad in and of themselves?
6. Then what is the problem?

## III. JETHRO'S INSIGHT v.17-23

### A. "The thing you are doing is not good." v.17

1. "You will surely wear out" v.18
2. "both yourself and these people who are with you"
3. "For the task is too heavy for you"
4. "you cannot do it alone"

### B. Jethro's counsel v.19-23

1. "Now listen to me"

2. "You be the people's representative before God" v.19
3. Moses was to make known the word and will of God v.20
4. Moses was to delegate authority v. 21,22
  - a. He was to select able men v.21
  - b. "who fear God"
  - c. "men of truth"
  - d. "hating covetousness"
5. Who else choose other men to help him/them?
6. He was to place them over the people
7. They are to judge the people v. 22
8. If Moses did this, then he would be able to endure v.23
9. "and God so commands" v.23
10. "and all these people will go to their place in peace"
11. "If you cannot learn to delegate, your ministry will never become larger than that which you can dominate"

C. The plan worked v. 24-27

1. Moses was healthier
2. Moses was a better leader focused on what God had called him to do
3. Mentored leaders
4. The impact multiplied
5. The people were healthier
6. God was honored and pleased

### III. LESSONS TO LEARN

- A. God is a God of balance
  - 1. Not chaos, not confusion, not burn out
  - 2. 1 Corinthians 14:33
- B. Results do not mean it is the will of God
- C. Doing more does not necessarily mean greater effectiveness
- D. God has a wonderful plan for our lives including using us for His glory
- E. Never get to the point where you are unteachable

### IV. HOW TO ACHIEVE BALANCE IN LIFE

- A. Ask God what His will is for your life
  - 1. Word of God
  - 2. Prayer
  - 3. What are the priorities of our lives?
- B. Prioritize your life according to the will of God
  - 1. Time
  - 2. Energy
  - 3. There is time and energy in God's plan for each area
- C. Build in to your schedule time to relax and renew
  - 1. There is nothing unspiritual about that
  - 2. Mark 6:31
- D. Walk with God daily
- E. Stop and ask, "What is keeping me from a life of balance?"
  - 1. Insecurity

2. We long to feel important
  3. We take our selves too seriously
  4. We allow other people, responsibilities to dictate our lives and not our priorities
  5. Guilt
  6. Habit
- F. Stop and ask, "What do I need to change this week to find balance in life?"