

LEARNING TO LEAN ON OTHERS

THE WAY | A Journey Through Exodus
PART TWO | The Way IN
Exodus 17:8-18:27

April 26th, 2015
Jon Krist

Last week we talked about how Moses and Israel needed to trust in God's faithful provision when times got really tough. This week will show us that in order to fulfill God's mission we must learn to lean on the people that He has put in our lives.

While the people of Israel were still at Rephidim, the warriors of Amalek attacked them. Moses commanded Joshua, "Choose some men to go out and fight the army of Amalek for us. Tomorrow, I will stand at the top of the hill, holding the staff of God in my hand."

So Joshua did what Moses had commanded and fought the army of Amalek. Meanwhile, Moses, Aaron, and Hur climbed to the top of a nearby hill. As long as Moses held up the staff in his hand, the Israelites had the advantage. But whenever he dropped his hand, the Amalekites gained the advantage.

Moses' arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands. So his hands held steady until sunset.

As a result, Joshua overwhelmed the army of Amalek in battle.

EXODUS 17:8-13

The next day, Moses took his seat to hear the people's disputes against each other. They waited before him from morning till evening.

When Moses' father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he asked, "What are you really accomplishing here? Why are you trying to do all this alone while everyone stands around you from morning till evening?"

Moses replied, "Because the people come to me to get a ruling from God. When a dispute arises, they come to me, and I am the one who settles the case between the quarreling parties. I inform the people of God's decrees and give them his instructions."

"This is not good!" Moses' father-in-law exclaimed. "You're going to wear yourself out—and the people, too. This job is too heavy a burden for you to handle all by yourself.

EXODUS 18:13-17

Moses was dangerously close to burning himself out when his father-in-law came to his rescue. What appears on the surface to be the insignificant visit of a relative is a really a divine provision to deliver Moses, not from the wrath of Pharaoh, nor from the attack of the Egyptian army, but from himself.

Moses listened to his father-in-law's advice and followed his suggestions.

EXODUS 18:24

PRIDE is the *barrier* to God's blessing.

- Are we more concerned with "being the solution" or with actually accomplishing what God's mission?
- You are not called to do everything.
- PROVERBS 3:5 - *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding."*

HUMILITY is the *key* to healthy community.

- Who do you allow to speak truth into your life?
- You've got something I need. I've got something you need. We need one another, doing what God has called each of us to do.

TEACHABILITY is the *pathway* to provision.

- Listening to others is a way of hearing from the Lord.
- **ARE YOU TEACHABLE?**
 - Moses was teachable.
- **ARE YOU TEACHING?**
 - Jethro was generous teacher.

WHAT DO WE DO TO LIVE THIS OUT?

1. TAKE IT TO GOD.

- Pray for God's provision.
- God is waiting for you to give him your all, so he can give you his all.

Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light."

MATTHEW 11:28-30

2. TAKE RISKS.

- Sometimes you may feel like you don't have anything to offer. While, other times you may feel like you don't need anything from anyone.
- To be able to lean on others we have to be open, transparent, honest...filled with truth and grace.

3. IT TAKES TIME.

- These relationships take time to grow and develop. Build space in your life to be intentional with the people around you.