

17” This is not good!” Moses’ father-in-law exclaimed. “You’re going to wear yourself out—and the people, too...” Exodus 18:17-18a



Getting to know you – What is the right way to replace the toilet paper--top or bottom feed? Why?

- 1. Read Exodus 18:13-17.** Jethro was very direct in his assessment of how Moses was doing his job. Do you think this was the best approach? How would you receive this type of feedback at your work or in your family?
- 2. Read 2 Samuel 12:1-13.** This passage tells the story of Nathan confronting David about his sin with Bathsheba. What do you notice about the approach Nathan used? What about David’s responses?
- 3.** Think about a time when you gave someone advice. What was your motivation? Was your advice well received? If your advice was rejected, how did it make you feel and what was your response?

4. Proverbs 12:15 says 'The way of a fool seems right to him, but a wise man listens to advice.' Sometimes pride can get in the way of our willingness to receive advice. **Read 1 Samuel 15:23.** What does the Bible compare being stubborn to? Share about a time in your life that someone gave you advice that changed your thinking. How do you generally respond to unsolicited advice?

5. Many people find confronting others to be really difficult. It is often easier to 'live and let live' rather than risk getting involved. Here we see Jethro willing to speak up and say something when he felt Moses needed an intervention. This was predicated upon relational capital between Jethro & Moses. Think of a time when someone confronted you about something. How did you receive it? Did you feel the criticism was well-intended? What was the outcome?

6. **Read Exodus 18::18.** It is very common today for people to talk about being 'burnt out' (probably a very overused self-assessment vs. a clinical diagnosis). Why do you think people feel overwhelmed and exhausted so much today? What can be done about it?

7. Moses showed great humility in listening to Jethro and following his advice. Do you think this made Moses a stronger leader or weaker leader? How do you imagine the people felt when they found out they would not be able to go straight to Moses with their problems?

