

Exodus 18

February 7, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

Deuteronomy 8:3 - God gave you manna to eat... so that you might understand that man doesn't live by bread alone, but by *every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD*.

2 Peter 1:3 - His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness.
Explain...

1. Share the LORD

v. 18:1-6 - Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses' father-in-law, heard of all that God had done for Moses and for Israel His people—that the Lord had brought Israel out of Egypt. ² Then Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took Zipporah, Moses' wife, after he'd sent her back, after he'd sent her back, with her two sons, of whom the name of one was Gershom (for he said, "I've been a *stranger* in a foreign land") ⁴ and the name of the other was Eliezer (for he said, "The *God* of my father was *my help*, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh"); ⁵ and Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, came with his sons and his wife to Moses in the wilderness, where he was encamped at the mountain of God. ⁶ Now he had said to Moses, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons with her."

#1 - Be Respectful

v. 7 - So Moses went out to meet his father-in-law, bowed down, and kissed him. And they asked each other about their well-being, and they went into the tent.

1 Peter 3:15 - Always be ready to give an answer to anyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with *gentleness and respect*.

2 Timothy 2:25 - Opponents must be *gently instructed*, in the hope that *God will grant them repentance* leading them to a knowledge of the truth.

Gently instruct

Grant repentance.

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#2 - Be Personal

v. 8 - And *Moses* told his father-in-law all that the Lord had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, all the hardship that had come upon them on the way, and *how the Lord had delivered them*.

Galatians 1:4 - Jesus gave Himself for our sins to rescue us.

#3 - Be God-centered

v. 8 - Moses told his father-in-law all that the Lord had done to Pharaoh... and how the Lord delivered them.⁹ Then Jethro rejoiced for all the good which the LORD had done for Israel, whom He'd delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians

Hebrews 2:14-15 - [God's Son became a man] so that by His death He might destroy him who holds the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery.

v. 10-12 - Jethro said, "Blessed be the LORD, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh, and who has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.¹¹ Now *I know* that the LORD is greater than all the gods; for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, He was above them."¹² Then Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took a burnt offering and other sacrifices to offer to God. And Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law before God.

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2. Share the Load

A. The Problem

v. 13-18 - And so it was, on the next day, that Moses sat to judge the people; and the people stood before Moses from morning until evening. ¹⁴ So when Moses' father-in-law saw all that he did for the people, he said, "What's this thing that you're doing for the people? Why do you alone sit, and all the people stand before you from morning until evening?" ¹⁵ Moses said to his father-in-law, "Because the people come to me to inquire of God. ¹⁶ When they have a difficulty, they come to me, and I judge between one and another; and I make known the statutes of God and His laws." ¹⁷ So Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you do isn't good. ¹⁸ Both you and these people who are with you will surely wear yourselves out. For this thing is too much for you; you're not able to perform it by yourself."

B. The Proposal

v. 19-23 - Listen now to my voice; I'll give you counsel, and God will be with you: Stand before God for the people, so that you may bring the difficulties to God. ²⁰ And you shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and show them the way in which they must walk and the work they must do. ²¹ Moreover you shall select from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties,

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and rulers of tens.²² And let them judge the people at all times. Then it will be that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they themselves shall judge. So it will be easier for you, for *they'll bear the burden with you*.²³ If you do this thing, and God so commands you then you'll be able to endure, and all this people will also go to their place in peace.”

C. The Pattern

Ephesians 4:11-12 - He who gave some to be... pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for works of ministry and to build up the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:16 - From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, *as every part does its share*.

Galatians 6:2 - Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

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"With age, comes wisdom. With travel, comes understanding."

As the children of Israel traveled to the Promised Land, God gave them what they needed to grow in wisdom and understanding.

1. God gave them _____ to eat.

God provides something even better for us.

Deuteronomy 8:3 - God gave you manna to eat... so that you might understand that man doesn't live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

2. God gave them a day of _____.

Jesus: "Man wasn't made for the Sabbath. The Sabbath was made for man."

3. God gave them water from _____.

2 Peter 1:3 - His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness.

4. God gave them victory over _____.

In chapter 18 we see what God wanted them to do.

1. Share the _____

When you share the gospel:

#1 - Be _____

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2 Timothy 2:25 - Opponents must be *gently instructed*, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth.

#2 - Be _____

#3 - Be _____

2. Share the _____

A. The _____

B. The _____

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C. The _____

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