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### Written Assignment 1

In Exodus chapter 18, There are some principles That are beneficial to use especially those who are in ministry and doing the Lord's work. In this chapter we see Moses interact with his stepfather Jethro, and it is quite interesting not only that Jethro rejoices in what God is doing in Moses but also leads Moses in efficient ways that will help Moses not be burned up. In this assignment we are going to dive in into the words of Jethro and how can we apply what he told Moses and to our lives.

There are a few things that we can learn about Jethro's character just from this one chapter, and I believe these will help us in our time in ministry and as ministers for those who are so. One of the things that you can learn from Jethro's character in which we see in exodus 18 is that he rejoices in what the Lord does for others. We see Jethro in Exodus 18:9 “Rejoiced for all the good that the Lord had done to Israel”. It's one thing to rejoice what's going on good for yourself but it's a different aspect when you are rejoicing for others. Jethro here has a rejoicing heart for Moses and that speaks loud to his character. Another characteristic we can learn about Jethro is that he has a mentor's heart. Jethro hearing what the Lord has done for Moses, wants to lead Moses the right way.

Jethro, not only being Moses' father-in-law but also a mentor, gives Moses' sound advice on how to operate the people that he is leading. I believe that the advice Jethro gave to Moses

was sound advice because he did not want Moses to get burnt out and be weary, Jethro knew the task that Moses had before him and wanted to show him how to do it effectively. I could imagine Jethro speaking from experience being that he was an older gentleman may be trying to steer Moses on the mistakes that he made which also speaks to the character of Jethro of being loving and teaching and also leading not only as a man of God but also as a loving father and mentor.

Although Moses was called by God the task at hand required some help and that's where Moses went wrong, he had no help for the task that God has given him. Moses was leading thousands of Israelites, those that were enslaved by Egypt and that was no easy task. Moses was the one and only mediator to the people, so not only is Moses leading them, but he must solve problems that come amongst the people, inquiries that the people want to bring to God and teaching them the laws and decrees; how Moses was doing it up until this point I have no idea. This could have affected Moses in multiple ways, one being burned out and tiring himself out. As I stated before Moses had a giant task ahead of him which was to bring the Israelites into the promised land and him being tiresome and burnt out would have him no good.

In the closing, there are many lessons that can be learned from this story both for our life and church ministry. The first lesson we can learn is if we see someone going down the wrong path then we must lead them the right way whether they know it's a wrong path or do not know. I truly thank God for the people He has put in my life to act as a Jethro in my life, to lead me in the right direction. The second lesson we can learn is that we cannot do it alone especially in a ministry sense. We should not be leading a ministry by ourselves but instead bringing on others to carry the burden and to give other people the opportunities to grow in their faith. Just as Jethro did for Moses, you do for someone else.