



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Exodus 18	Title:	“Share the Load”
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Summary of Chapter	In this chapter, Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law visits from Midian. Moses gives an account of the good things the Lord has done for Israel, in rescuing them from Egypt. Jethro continues to observe as Moses presides over the new nation’s affairs and gives Moses a valuable piece of leadership advice.		

Key Verse(s) NLT	How does it speak to me?
<p>21 <i>But select from all the people some capable, honest men who fear God and hate bribes. Appoint them as leaders over groups of one thousand, one hundred, fifty, and ten.</i></p>	<p>In this passage, we see Jethro observing that Moses was on the verge of overworking. He noted that Moses handled the people’s affairs from morning to evening and did so entirely on his own without a single person’s help. To save Moses from imminent burnout, Jethro gave Moses an important piece of advice – “share the load!” He was so astute to assess that (a) the work is too heavy for Moses, (b) Moses would wear himself out, (c) Moses is of no good help to people being worn out. Jethro suggested that Moses set up a team of leaders to divide up and share the load. He also advised Moses to delegate the work to leaders who were God-fearers, trustworthy and honest in their dealings – men of integrity. Scriptures tell us that Moses did exactly as his father-in-law suggested.</p> <p>Personally, I have experienced burnout before, years ago in ministry. Today, I have learned to ask for help and also learned to share tasks with others and watch them flourish as they achieve the same plans in their own beautiful ways. I encourage any fellow leaders reading this to also respond like Moses: be quick to learn to share the load - step back and give others the opportunity to bring their giftings, talents, intelligence and creativity to the table. There is something uniquely special about a team win than a solo win. For those of us who are not leaders, may I challenge you to cultivate these qualities, and step up to serve with leaders who you know need some load-sharing.</p>

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	As a leader, what holds you back from sharing the load with others? Is it pride, unwillingness to let go, or not being able to trust others to do the job as well?
Youth:	In reading v21, which of the following three qualities would you like to cultivate more of – God-fearing, trustworthiness, and integrity? Prayerfully ask the Lord to help you cultivate that quality in practical ways.
Child:	Why do you think God wants us to share the responsibilities at home? What is one thing you could do to help your parents this week?

PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Father, You did not create us to live in isolation. You put us around each other so that we could be helpful to each other and cover each other's weaknesses with the different strengths each of us have. Help us to cultivate humility to rely on one another, as well as the willingness to lend a helping hand to those around us.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus’ Name I/we pray. Amen.