



Helping the Helper

Exodus 18:13-27

One of the characteristics of a true servant is humility. There are times when a helper needs help. Our attitude and our willingness to cooperate says a lot about us and the work that we are doing. Some resist any suggestions and some insist on doing things the way that they see it. In this lesson, we learn about Jethro and Moses—helping the helper.

A. Jethro recognized what Moses was doing was not _____ (13-18)

1. The people were standing in line all day with complaints (Ex 21:18-19, 28-29; 22:1-5, 14-15)
Complaints take _____ to investigate and to hear all _____ of the story
People with complaints are not _____
Frustrated and tired, the people were becoming weary

2. Moses was on a fast track to _____

B. Jethro suggested a plan that would _____ (19-22)

1. It would _____ the process up and keep the people satisfied
2. It would _____ and _____ more to serve
3. It would allow Moses to do what he was _____ at doing
4. Jethro presented it in such a _____ that it didn't seem like he was complaining.

Some are quick to see a problem but they offer no solution or their solution isn't practical

C. For this to work, Moses had to be _____ to accept help (19a, 24)

Three Reasons Why This May Not Have Worked:

1. Jethro had not been _____ by God
 2. Jethro was _____
 3. Jethro had never done this _____ before
- Prov 1:5; 11:14; 12:15; 15:22; 19:20
 - Sometimes the best advice comes from the most unlikely of sources

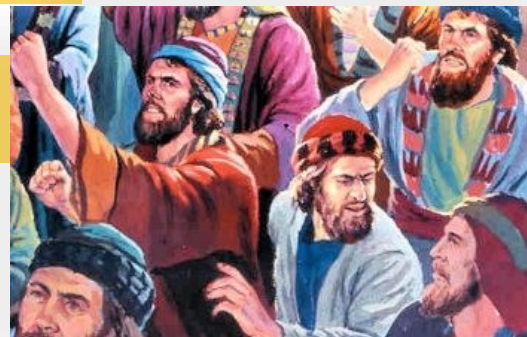
Often a good suggestion is rejected on the basis of the person who suggested it...

What needs to be considered when one gives advice?

What needs to be considered when one receives advice?

As Moses taught more and more people what the law said (20), what upside benefits would take place?

- Jethro couldn't take Moses' place. But what he could do was to find a way to encourage him and help make Moses a better Moses.



What are applications of this principle for us?