

# *The Pastor and His Ministry*

*Exodus 18*





# An encouraging mentor for Ministry

A person worthy of trust (vss. 6-8)

*“Jethro, your father-in-law”*

- Someone who loves you, but is not impressed by you.

*“(Moses) bowed to him respectfully and greeted him warmly.”*

- Someone who commands your respect, but also engenders your affection.

*“Moses told his father-in-law about everything . . .”*

- Someone who listens, and with whom it is safe to be transparent.

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## A person of godly character (vss. 9-12)

*“Praise be to the Lord,” Jethro said . . . .”*

- Someone with a positive attitude and a “faith” perspective.

*“Jethro . . . gave sacrifices to God.”*

- Someone who models a passion for and devotion to God.

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## A person of great wisdom (vss. 13-14, 19a)

*“Why are you trying to do all this alone?”*

- Someone who will help you clarify the problem.  
*“Now let me give you a word of advice, and may God be with you.”*

- Someone who will offer a solution to the problem.

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## A Proper Perspective of Ministry

*“Moses replied, ‘Well, the people come to me to seek God’s guidance. When an argument arises, I am the one who settles the case. I inform the people of God’s decisions, and teach them His laws and instructions.’” (vss. 15-16)*

- It is not “my” ministry

*“This is not good!” his father-in-law exclaimed. “You’re going to wear yourself out – and the people, too. This job is too heavy a burden for you to handle all by yourself.” (vss. 17-18)*

- It is too heavy alone

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## A Strategic Focus for Ministry

### Reassess your Role as Pastor (vss. 19-21a)

*“ . . . the peoples’ representative before God”*

*“ . . . teach them God’s laws and instructions, and show them how to conduct their lives.”*

*“ . . . find some capable men . . . ”*

### Develop God’s Strategy for Ministry (vss. 21-23)

*“If God directs you to do so, then you will be able to endure the pressures, and all these people will go home in peace.”*

### Work God’s Strategy for Ministry (vss. 24-27)

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