

## The Thing That You Do Is Not Good

It is no secret that life can be busy. Between family, work, school, social activities, sports, and many other things, life can get extremely busy. Most of the time, our schedule gets busy without us realizing it. We think we have time for one more thing, so we add it to the day's events. Before we know it, the day is gone, and we are left wondering what happened to it.

Moses found himself in just such a situation. As the leader of the people of God, he had brought Israel out of Egypt. They were making their way towards Mt. Sinai when Jethro, his father-in-law, came to visit. Their conversation reveals just how busy Moses really was.

The day after Jethro arrives at the camp, "*Moses sat to judge the people; and the people stood before Moses from morning until evening*" (Ex. 18:13). Later in the passage, we are told that Israel came to Moses so that he could judge them and make the law of God known. Moses probably never intended to be this busy. He probably never intended to judge Israel "*from morning until evening.*" It just happened.

Jethro saw a problem with this. In fact, when Jethro observed this for one day, he spoke directly to Moses. What he said was direct and to the point. "*The thing that you do is not good*" (18:17). He goes on to tell Moses that if he continues at this pace, "*both you and these people who are with you will surely wear yourselves out*" (18:18).

His suggestion to his son-in-law was simple: slow down and get help. Allow others to solve the minor problems, and then you can handle the major problems. For Jethro, it was a matter of priorities. Under the current system, those with major problems, those that really needed the counsel of Moses, could not get to him because he was focused on trivial matters. It is not that the trivial matters did not need to be addressed. It was just that Moses was too busy focusing on them to fulfill his main responsibility.

We must make sure that our priorities are in the right order. We do not have to work every overtime, be in every play, play every sport, watch every television show, take every phone call, respond to every e-mail, etc. There is not enough time in our day to give to everyone who may want something. So what do we do? We prioritize. We make a list of the most important things. Then we do the first things first.

So, what comes first to you? God has some suggestions, but it is really up to you to decide. If the things of God are first on your priority list, you will make the time for Him. You will read His word, pray to Him, and seek opportunities to serve and worship Him. If He is not first, then life will get in the way, and you will be too busy for Him. What is first on your list?

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## **Elders**

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## **Sunday Services**

Bible Study – 9:00 AM  
Morning Worship – 10:00 AM  
Evening Worship – 6:00 PM

## **Wednesday Services**

Ladies Bible Class – 9:30 AM  
Evening Bible Study – 7:00 PM

## **Mission Work**

Cameroon, West Africa  
India Mission Fund  
Heritage Christian University  
New Pathway's Children's Home  
Australia (Peter Tickner)  
Boulder, Colorado (David Howard)  
Partners for Africa (Dorian Flynn)  
Open Door Ministry (Dale Byrum)