

You're Doing Too Much Exodus 18:17-21

Introduction

1. Moses was an active leader of Israel. His responsibilities were diverse, and it appears that he tried to take care of everything single-handedly (Exodus 18:14).
2. Jethro, father-in-law to Moses and also known as Reuel (Exodus 2:18), told Moses that he was simply doing too much.
3. This study will explore more about doing "too much."

I. Christian, you're doing too much when...

- A. ...You cannot put the kingdom of heaven first (Matthew 6:33).
 1. Whatever *item* is put before the church is an *idol* (Colossians 3:5).
Family, friends, fun, recreation, relaxation, entertainment, extra curricular activities, etc. all have there place, but that place must not come before God. --mention LUR list school activities post--
 2. In the realm of sports and politics, second place may be considered a "strong showing," but God will accept anything less than first place in our life.
- B. ...Regular, faithful service (including attendance) becomes a burden rather than a blessing.
 1. Someone is doing too much when you (or a family member) ask(s): "Do we have to go to church?"
 2. Christianity should be viewed as a crown around one's head (Revelation 2:10) instead of a weight around one's neck.
 - a. When showing others a sterling Christian life appears dull, un-cool, or not fashionable, you are doing way too much.
 - b. When the world has a stronger influence on you than you have on it, you are doing too much.
- C. ...You give God the leftovers from a busy week.
 1. By giving God the leftovers (Malachi 1:8) Malachi accused God's people of robbery (Malachi 3:8).
 2. We follow the sinful ways when we drag our exhausted, unprepared bodies into the church building and give God tired, non-alert "*worship.*" It's been said: "You prepare for Sunday morning worship on **Saturday night.**"
 3. When you consider yourself "too busy" for spiritual activities but make time for other activities, you are too busy!

II. The World is doing too much by...

- A. ...Teaching a message of conformity (Romans 12:1, 2).

- B. ...Attacking God's plan for the home (Matthew 19:9). Consider the following breakdown from Mark 10:5-9.
 - 1. There is one Plan.
 - 2. There are two People.
 - 3. There are three Persons--the couple plus God, Who seals the bond.
- C. ...Presenting a confusing religious message (see 1 Corinthians 14:33).
- D. ...By emphasizing a "ME FIRST" mentality (see Romans 15:1).
- E. ...By making Christians feel all alone in their beliefs (see Matthew 7:13, 14).

III. Are you doing enough?

- A. Are you doing enough to please God?
- B. Are you doing enough to fight the influence of the world?
- C. Are you doing enough to protect your family from the world's dangerous influence?

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Parents Please Read

Your Little Girl, Your Little Boy

**Mary had a little boy; His soul was white as snow.
But he never went to Bible class, cause Mary wouldn't go.
He missed the story of Christ that thrills a child's mind.
While other children learned of God, this child was left behind.
And as he grew from babe to youth, she saw to her dismay
A soul that once was snowy white, Became a dingy gray.**

**Realizing now that he was lost, she tried to win him back.
By now the soul that once was white, had turned an ugly black.
She even started back to church, and Bible study, too.
She begged the preacher, "Isn't there something you can do?"
The preacher tried and failed and said, "We're just too far behind.
I tried to tell you years ago, But you would pay no mind."
And so another soul is lost, that once was white as snow,
Bible study would have helped, but Mary wouldn't go!**