

## Conversation Starters

- Do you ever look at people's lives and wonder how they can be so blind to what is causing their struggles?

## Discuss

Read Exodus 18:1-27 then continue with the discussion below.

We all have blind spots in our lives. Even Moses, a man who intimately knew God, failed to see his own shortcomings. His father-in-law, Jethro, was wise enough to see where Moses was struggling and offer him advice.

- Has anyone ever pointed out a blind spot in your life? How did you take it?

Moses did not get defensive, or offended. He humbly accepted the advice from Jethro.

- When someone offers you advice, or constructive criticism how do you handle it?
- Are you able to admit that sometimes you are blind to your own faults?

## We have to admit there are things we can't see.

Owning our inability to see our own flaws is the first lesson we learn from Moses' story. This step alone does not bring about any resolution to our struggles. We must take a very important second step.

## We need to surround ourselves with people who can see what we can't see.

- Do you have people in your life who care enough to have the uncomfortable conversations needed to continually push you towards Christ?
- Are you seeking out and developing these relationships?
- How can you build relationships that will protect you from your blind spots and challenge you spiritually?
- Are you offering your friendship and your time to pour into the lives of others?

Though the growth of the Christ-follower, in many ways, occurs within the context of community, it is absolutely imperative to get alone with God. This is one of the essential ways in which you come to know the wisdom and character of God. However, it is not enough to merely know the God's word. This leads us to the third step.

**Implement the insight of the God who can see everything.**

Jethro's advice came with a qualifier: "If you follow this advice, and if God commands you to do so, then you will be able to endure the pressures, and all these people will go home in peace" (Ex. 18:23). Moses sought to know God, and because of this he knew what God commanded.

- Do you seek to know God?
- Do you think we can know God today the way Moses did?
- Do you spend time in prayer and reading the Bible so that you have the tools you need to test the advice you are given throughout your life?

Consider this verse: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding" (Prov. 3:5 ESV).

- Do you trust God?
- In times of trouble do you try to solve everything on your own, or lean on God?

**Next Steps**

- Are you willing to admit you have blind spots that you need help with?
- What steps are you willing to take to start building life-changing relationships? Examples: join a group, seek out a mentor, or join a serving team
- How can you make yourself available to those who may need you in their life?
- Will you dedicate a specific time of day for seeking to know God through prayer and meditation on His word?

**Pray**

Father, please reveal Yourself to us as we seek to know You. Fill us with the knowledge of Your will, and give us depth of insight that we may be able to discern what is best and be pure and blameless in Your sight.