

# Lifting, Listening, Lowering

## Intro

- A hodge-podge, a potpourri, a cornucopia of passages and lessons in today's study.
- Three main points
  - **Lifting.** When you are in a battle, lift your arms to the Lord in prayer and praise.
  - **Listening.** When you are overwhelmed, listen to the wisdom of others.
  - **Lowering.** When you encounter the Living God, lower yourself in respect, humility, and obedience.
- Review

## Exodus 17:8-16

- Who is Amalek? The grandson of Esau, Jacob's/Israel's brother.
- Unclear if God told Moses this plan or not. Imagine being Joshua and hearing this? Take her or Hur?
- Try holding empty hands up in the air for 15 minutes and see how tired they get!
- **The rod was the symbol of God's authority and power through Moses.**
- Joshua is going to need the encouragement later. It's good to read the stories of others.
- What should we do when we are in a battle, whether it is against an apparent enemy or against the flesh?
  - **Lift up your arms in prayer and praise.** OT and NT concept. Mocked in school.
  - **Hold up the symbol of God's authority and power through you, His word.** Means you gotta know it, be in it on your own regularly. Use it, let God use it in you.
  - **If you do go to God, what do you hold up? Something to trade?**
  - **Get support from others, which means being humble, open, vulnerable.**
- **The Lord Is My Banner** - thing lifted up, troop standard, purpose is to look up to for direction. Referring to what Moses did. Later used for snake on the pole (**Num. 21**).
- Jesus on the cross. **John 3:14-17**.
- **My** as opposed to **our**. Is He your banner, your rally point, the thing you look to for direction and salvation? Song, I lift my eyes up... Where do you look?

## Exodus 18

- Survey
- When you are overwhelmed, **listen to the wisdom of others.**
  - Did Jethro have any experience on this scale? No, but that didn't mean he might not have something to offer.
  - Did Moses ask for his input? Don't know for sure. Not always easy to receive advice from others, especially when you didn't ask for it! Other pastors do it all the time. Grr. So do new people sometimes. Done that myself.
  - **Sometimes people on the outside of your situation can see things you can't see from the inside.** The word is enough, but the word tells us to rely on others.
- **Delegation is a ministry**
  - **Acts 6:1-7**
  - **Ephesians 4:11-16**
- **No one should be an island, in ministry or otherwise.** Need to be open, need to ask.

## Exodus 19

- 1-6 The purpose of the people
- 7-9 The peoples response to God
- 10-15 When you encounter the Living God, lower yourself in respect, humility, and obedience.
  - Set yourselves apart, prepare to be in the presence of God.
  - This isn't even set apart from the world, it's getting cleaned up for the Lord. Not unto salvation, but simply presentation. Like a first date.
  - This isn't a one time thing, a lifestyle thing. Do you do this?
- 16-25
  - God is a real and powerful being worthy of our treating Him as real and powerful.
  - Not some idol, not some idea, not just "true for me". The one true God. The Creator.
  - He is holy yet calls people to Himself. Relationship.

## Wrap up

- Not the point of these three chapters in a row, but a good pattern none the less in our daily approach to the Lord.
- Lift your life up to the Lord, listen to what He has to say, and lower yourself to walk in it.
- When your in a battle, what do you lift up to the Lord? Where do you look?
- When your overwhelmed, do you try to be a big boy or girl and handle it all on your own, or do you seek the wisdom and help of others? Can you delegate?
- As approachable as the Lord is, do you revere Him? Do you respect Him? Do you get gussied up for Jesus?
- Jesus died and rise again to bring us into the presence of the living God. Live like it's real. Love like it's real.