



Monday Matters

November 19, 2012

Keep Those Arms Up!

A few years back I picked up a used seven foot cabinet that would make a great workbench in the garage. A couple of guys loaded the cabinet into my SUV with no trouble. I tied it down as about two feet of the cabinet was sticking out the back end. After driving carefully to the house, it was time to unload it. No one was at home and all my neighbors were at work. No big deal. I'll just slide it out and get it on the driveway. I knew I could do it. I didn't need anyone else's help. Wrong! I battled with that cabinet and had no success in moving it but a couple of feet and it was still in my vehicle.

All of a sudden a guy, a city worker, in a pickup truck saw my predicament, swung into the neighborhood, parked in front of the house, jumped out and asked me if he could help with my battle with the cabinet. With someone helping hold up one side of the cabinet and me on the other side, we easily got it into the garage. I thanked this city worker for stopping to assist me when I couldn't win the battle by myself.

On a much bigger scale, I was reminded this week of the Biblical account of Moses holding his arms up toward heaven when fighting the Amalekites. In Exodus 17 it

A Must See Video

On Accepting Assistance



You Raise Me Up
Lyrics by Brendan Graham
Music by Rolf Lovland

Quote of the Week

"Dare to reach out your hand into the darkness, to pull another hand into the light."
~Norman B. Rice"

tells us that as long as his arms were up, the Israelites were winning. When he put them down, they began to lose. Eventually Moses becomes so tired that he can no longer hold his arms up. Aaron and Hur responded to his weariness by holding up his arms, providing the assistance that was needed, until the Israelites were able to defeat the Amalekites.



When we think of the leadership of Moses, our minds are flooded with many images such as Moses confronting Pharaoh to parting the Red Sea to descending Mount Sinai with the 10 Commandments. But in this chapter we see a different Moses, another aspect of his leadership: the willingness to accept the assistance of others.

Halle Gray Scott writes that "One of the common temptations in leadership is succumbing to the pressure of having to have it all together. We may be tempted to hide our fears and weaknesses, feeling that we need to be strong for others. We may find it difficult to trust others with our insecurities and doubts, believing that this would somehow compromise our integrity as leaders."

This type of thinking will drastically affect our effectiveness whether it be in business, ministry or family. To become the leaders we want to be, we must be willing to accept the support of trusted friends and advisors, just like Moses. We can't let our ego get in the way of being effective.

To find those people who can be of assistance to us, to help us to keep our arms up, there are three suggested steps:

First - seek out those trusted friends, those confidants, carefully and even prayerfully.

Second - take the risk of developing a deep relationship with them.

Third - understand it can take time to develop that deep relationship.

Our sustainability as a leader is dependent upon accepting the help of others. Who is holding up your arms? How willing are we to ask someone to hold up



Meet the Nelson Family

Anthony, Kristin, Leif, Juliana, Soren, Mia and Evangeline
The Nelson's are missionaries to the natives in Alaska.
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Contact Information

Ron Nelson, CCA
1246 Aruba Circle
Charleston, SC 29412

MondayMatters.us@gmail.com

www.MondayMatters.us



The Mamas & The Papas Monday Monday

our arms?