

3 People - 3 Stories

Thanksgiving 2022

Can I Give You Some Advice? (Jethro)

Exodus 18

A. THE ORIGIN STORY OF JETHRO [18:1]

B. WHERE DID HE GO? [18:2-5]

C. WHAT DID HE DO? [18:6-27]

Part 1: *PRAISED GOD* [18:6-11]

Part 2: *WORSHIPED GOD* [18:12]

Part 3: *SHADOWED MOSES* [18:13-16]

(TAKE YOUR FATHER-IN-LAW TO WORK DAY)

Part 4: *ADVISED MOSES* [18:17-23]

(PRESENTED A NEW MODEL OF LEADERSHIP)

Part 5: *MOSES TOOK HIS ADVICE* [18:24-27]

(MOSES BUILDS A TEAM)

Discussion Questions

1. Read Exodus 2:16-22 and 18:1. In both places Jethro is called the Priest of Midian. What does this tell us about him?
2. Read Exodus 18:14-18. What are some responsibilities that have been wearing you out in recent months?
3. Read Exodus 18:24-27. How do you typically respond to someone who gives you insight like Jethro gave Moses? What steps can you take now to prepare yourself to respond well when others offer feedback or advice?
4. Is there anyone in your life that you lean into for wisdom and observations concerning your journey, like a teacher or mentor? Why do you go to them for advice?
5. Pray for God to raise up more people in your life to assist you in your journey, and reach out this week to someone who has impacted your life. through the

EXODUS 2:16-22 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters, and they came and drew water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. ¹⁷ The shepherds came and drove them away, but Moses stood up and saved them, and watered their flock. ¹⁸ When they came home to their father Reuel [Jethro], he said, "How is it that you have come home so soon today?" ¹⁹ They said, "An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds and even drew water for us and watered the flock." ²⁰ He said to his daughters, "Then where is he? Why have you left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread."

²¹ And Moses was content to dwell with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah. ²² She gave birth to a son, and he called his name Gershom, for he said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land."

EXODUS 18:13-27 The next day Moses sat to judge the people, and the people stood around Moses from morning till evening. ¹⁴ When Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, "What is this that you are doing for the people? Why do you sit alone, and all the people stand around you from morning till evening?"

¹⁵ And Moses said to his father-in-law, "Because the people come to me to inquire of God; ¹⁶ when they have a dispute, they come to me and I decide between one person and another, and I make them know the statutes of God and his laws." ¹⁷ Moses' father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. ¹⁸ You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone. ¹⁹ Now obey my voice; I will give you advice, and God be with you! You shall represent the people before God and bring their cases to God, ²⁰ and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do. ²¹ Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. ²² And let them judge the people at all times. Every great matter they shall bring to you, but any small matter they shall decide themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. ²³ If you do this, God will direct you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace."

²⁴ So Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said. ²⁵ Moses chose able men out of all Israel and made them heads over the people, chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. ²⁶ And they judged the people at all times. Any hard case they brought to Moses, but any small matter they decided themselves.

²⁷ Then Moses let his father-in-law depart, and he went away to his own country.