

# EXODUS

## A DIVINE EXIT

### God Doesn't Need Superman/mom

Exodus 18

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms out there this morning. To get us started I'd like to ask each of you a couple questions.

- "Who is the all-time greatest super-hero?"
- "If your mom was as super hero, what would her name be and what would be her super power?"

It can be argued that Superman is the greatest of all super heroes. He can fly, see through walls, possess incredible strength and his only weakness is kryptonite, an element found on a planet that no longer exists. Exodus 18 puts the spotlight on "Super Moses" who was trying to do all the judicial work for a nation of 2 million people by himself. As we celebrate all the SuperMoms out there it is fitting to be reminded of the value of delegation that God taught Moses.

#### All Together is better than All Alone

- Ecclesiastes 4:12 Two is better than 1 and 3 is better still
- Proverbs 18:1 Folly of isolation
- Proverbs 11:14, 13:10, 15:22 wisdom of counsel

#### Equipping and Empowering is Godly Wisdom

- 2 Timothy 2:2 Training up faithful men to teach others
- Acts 6:1-7 Selection of deacons to free up apostles to study and pray
- 1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 12-19 Spiritual gifts for all to benefit all

#### Pray, Plan and Put Into Practice

Book of Nehemiah

- Chapter 1 Nehemiah Prays over the great need in Jerusalem
- Chapter 2 Nehemiah Plans for the rebuild
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This has been truly a unique time for everybody due to this pandemic, but the weight has been particularly heavy upon parents and moms in particular. Many moms out there have added to their already full plate the responsibility of teacher and accompanying this has been an increase in meal preparation, house cleaning, fear counselor and sibling referee. To top this all off on the day that we set aside to honor moms we are unable to take her out for a nice meal and day out! Moms

**BIG  
IDEA**

**God does not need you to be everything  
to everyone...That's His Job!**

## **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- 1. Share one thing you learned or that made an impact on you from the text this morning**
- 2. Kids: Share a specific way that you can serve in your home**
- 3. Parents: In what places are you being “superman” or “supermom” when you should be equipping and empowering others in the home?**
- 4. Everyone: Choose one of the three points and share a way that you can and will apply this to your life**
- 5. Christian: In what ways can you equip and empower others for ministry and in what ways can you be equipped and empowered in ministry?**
- 6. Find one way to honor and serve your mom today**

# GOD DOESN'T NEED SUPERMAN/MOM

EXODUS 18

## BIG IDEA: GOD DOES NOT NEED YOU TO BE EVERYTHING TO EVERYONE...THAT'S HIS JOB!

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms out there this morning. To get us started I'd like to ask each of you a couple questions.

- "Who is the all-time greatest super-hero?"
- "If your mom was as super hero, what would her name be and what would be her super power?"

It can be argued that Superman is the greatest of all super heroes. He can fly, see through walls, possess incredible strength and his only weakness is kryptonite, an element found on a planet that no longer exists. Exodus 18 puts the spotlight on "Super Moses" who was trying to do all the judicial work for a nation of 2 million people by himself. As we celebrate all the SuperMoms out there it is fitting to be reminded of the value of delegation that God taught Moses.

## All Together is better than All Alone

- **Ecclesiastes 4:12**-Two is better than 1 and 3 is better still

Ecclesiastes 4:12 (ESV), <sup>12</sup> And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

### Discussion on 3 cord rope

[https://www.reddit.com/r/askscience/comments/pudnr/does\\_braiding\\_3\\_ropes\\_together\\_make\\_a\\_ropes\\_that/](https://www.reddit.com/r/askscience/comments/pudnr/does_braiding_3_ropes_together_make_a_ropes_that/)

**Question:** Does braiding 3 ropes together make a rope that is stronger than the sum of the individual ropes

**Answer 1:** *If you use three ropes that will break at 100lbs, braided or twisted together they will have a breaking strength of less than 300lbs. Braiding puts stresses on certain parts of the fibers, reducing their maximum load. However, given "real rope", you'd only be able to determine this difference if you made a bunch of them and tested them all-- the breaking strength differences between different production runs and even different parts of the same production run are high enough you couldn't really pinpoint a number.*

*Rope construction takes this into account, and a rope made up of many smaller filaments is much more resistant to damage than a monofilament rope would be: individual fibers in the rope can break, but it won't affect the working load of the rope.*

*My experience is primarily with wire rope, for which there are actual standards of acceptance for broken wires in the ropes. I don't know if there are standards for fiber ropes, but I imagine it's a similar thing.*

*One more curiosity about rope. If you are dealing with a twisted rope rather than a braided rope, the rope will untwist slightly under load. This is really useful when you shock load the rope, because this twist will work as a shock absorber. However, if you are suspending something like a chandelier and run the rope over a pulley, as you pull the chandelier up, or lower it down, the twisting of the rope will actually impart a spin onto the chandelier. If it has a fair bit of mass, it can actually get going and start untwisting the rope (damaging it).*

*The counter-intuitive, but really simple way to deal with it is to put a swivel fitting between the chandelier and the rope. The rope will still spin, but it won't make the chandelier spin (as much).*

*Source/authority: I am a theatrical rigger.*

### **Response to answer 1**

*Mechanical engineering major here. The top comment with the flaws is correct, just a note on the significance of the braiding:*

*Say one fiber in a rope breaks under tension, so it isn't supporting the load anymore. At a sufficient distance from the break along that fiber, the friction with neighboring fibers is sufficient to exert the same tension on it as all the other fibers. So even though that flaw has caused damage at its point along the rope, the rest of the rope is unaffected. It's a remedy to the weakest-link of a chain problem.*

### **Additional response:**

*The resulting rope would not be able to handle the sum of the breaking strength of the constituent ropes, but would handle more weight than a single one alone would.*

### **Additional discussion:**

*Much of this discussions seems to assume that the ropes can only break, and not stretch, as tension is increased. It occurs to me that, like a chain's weakest link, pulling a rope until it breaks will reveal where it is weakest. A braided rope may allow a weak spot to be covered by the other strands in the braid, causing the weak spot to stretch instead of suddenly losing its hold.*

- **Proverbs 18:1-folly of isolation**

Proverbs 18:1 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all sound judgment.

- **Proverbs 11:14, 13:10, 15:22-wisdom of counsel**

Proverbs 11:14 (ESV)

<sup>14</sup> Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety.

Proverbs 13:10 (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> By insolence comes nothing but strife, but with those who take advice is wisdom.

Proverbs 15:22 (ESV)

<sup>22</sup> Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed.

All you super moms and dads out there, it is a good thing to share the workload with others, ie, your kids. Chores are a gift from God for you and them

## Equipping and Empowering is Godly Wisdom

- **2 Timothy 2:2-Training up faithful men to teach others**

### 2 Timothy 2:2 (ESV)

<sup>2</sup> and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

Training of Terry Fogle upcoming residency of Jean Marc and addition of Lay pastors.

- **Acts 6:1-7-Selection of deacons to free up apostles to study and pray**

Acts 6:1–7 (ESV) <sup>1</sup> Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup> And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup> Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup> But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” <sup>5</sup> And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup> These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. <sup>7</sup> **And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.**

- **1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 12-19-Spiritual gifts for all to benefit all**

1 Corinthians 12:4–6 (ESV) <sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

1 Corinthians 12:12–19 (ESV) <sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. <sup>14</sup> For the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And

*if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be?*

This past spring our family was able to pick up a used SCAG Wildcat 26 HP LQ Commercial grade mower. It's a bit of an overkill for our yard, but man is it fun. With this new tool our boys have started a lawn mowing and trimming business and I help by supplying the equipment and helping where needed. So here comes my confession...I really like mowing and this new mower makes me want to mow even more, so I have to fight the temptation to go ahead and do all the mowing for my kids. When I let them mow they develop skill at mowing and are now equipped and empowered to run the business themselves and hopefully one day teach my grandkids and great-grandkids. You know where I learned how to mow? At 813 West N Avenue in Nevada, IA where my dad "made us" mow our yard and eventually started a small mowing business and then I worked many summers mowing lawns for a man named Cal. If my dad had never let me learn how to mow I would have missed out!

Parents, there are lots of tasks around the house that need to be done and your kids will be better off and you will be better off if you teach them how to do the job and then let them do it. Maybe start with the jobs you hate the most, but are easiest to learn like cleaning toilets, vacuuming floors and dusting 😊 Be creative moms and dads, God has just freed you up to assign equip and empower your kids!

## **Pray, Plan and Put Into Practice**

Exodus 18 is not primarily a passage on family and moms, but it is really God-given wisdom given to His leader, Moses, for the good of His people of Israel. Another application that is definitely fitting for us today is in the context of God's people, the church. God has given the church gifted people for the work of the ministry and it is His desire that all of us serve in His church to fulfill the great commission by making more and better disciples. How do we do this? Can I suggest 3 Biblical and simple steps: Pray, Plan and Put into practice...

### Book of Nehemiah

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- **Chapter 2** Nehemiah Plans for the rebuild
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## **Conclusion:**

This has been truly a unique time for everybody due to this pandemic, but the weight has been particularly heavy upon parents and moms in particular. Many moms out there have added to their already full plate the responsibility of teacher and accompanying this has been an increase in meal preparation, house cleaning, fear counselor and sibling referee. To top this all off on the day that we set aside to honor moms we are unable to take here out for a nice meal and day out! Moms

and dads may feel like they are being called to be all things to all people and have become modern day supermen and women and getting exhausted! Today's message shares the wisdom of delegation and empowerment and is a fitting message for the days we are now living.

**BIG  
IDEA**

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to everyone...That's His Job!**

# EXODUS



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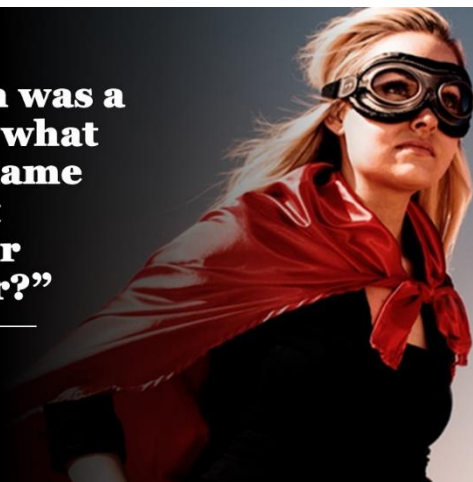
**GOD DOESN'T NEED  
SUPERMAN/MOM**

EXODUS 18



**Who Is The All-Time  
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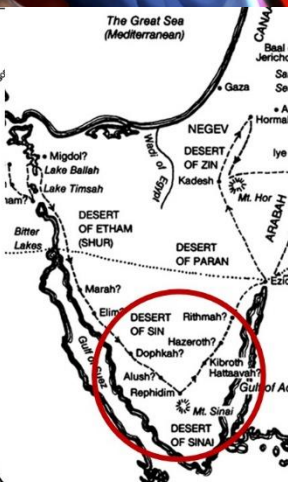
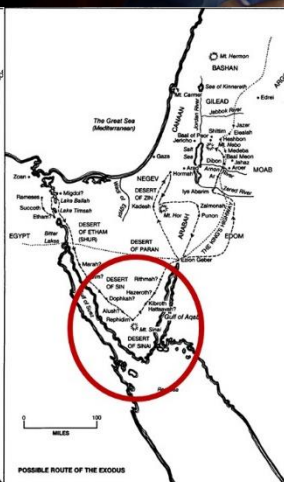
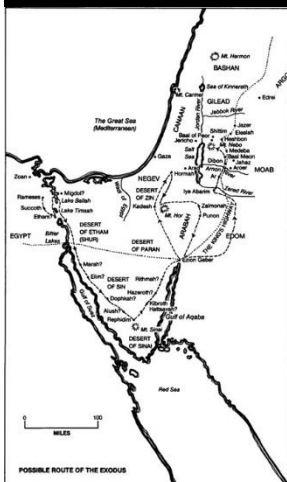
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IS BETTER  
THAN ALL  
ALONE**

**STRONGER  
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ECCLESIASTES 4:12

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### PRAY, PLAN AND PUT INTO PRACTICE

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