

Sermon Discussion: Exodus 17:8-18:12 - Learning to Fight and Feast

(Designed to move from hearing → seeing → receiving → responding)

1. Re-enter the Text

What did God say?

- What moment, image, or phrase from this passage or sermon stayed with you?
- Where did the story slow you down or surprise you?
- If you had to name one scene from this passage that captures the heart of it, what would it be—the battle, the mountain, the altar, the story told to Jethro, or the shared meal?

2. Behold God

What is this showing us about who God is?

- What do we learn about God from the way He meets Israel in both **battle** and **rest**?
- How does God make His presence known in this story—especially when His people are tired or vulnerable?
- What does it mean that God calls Himself “The LORD is my banner”? What does that reveal about how He wants His people to live and fight?

3. Reflect on Us

- Where did you resonate most with Israel in this passage—weariness, fear, effort, forgetfulness, or relief?
- Why do you think it’s so tempting to trust effort, control, or strength when the fight is long?
- Where do you notice the need for **shared dependence** in your own life right now?

4. Receive the Gospel

What is God offering us here?

- What good news do you hear for tired people in this story?
- How does this passage protect us from believing that victory, faithfulness, or leadership depends on never growing weak?
- Where do you see grace given **before** things are fully resolved or explained?

5. Respond in Faith

How might this shape our lives—slowly and concretely?

- What does it look like to fight faithfully **without becoming self-reliant**?
- Where might God be inviting you to let others “hold up your hands” right now?
- Is there a small step this week—relational, spiritual, or practical—that could help you live more consciously under God’s banner?

6. Pray It In

- Thank God for ways He has sustained you—even when you were unaware.
- Name places of weariness or fear honestly before Him.
- Ask God to shape your memory, trust, and hope under His faithful presence.

