

Study Guide

The Israelites have endured several crises since the Red Sea crossing, yet God has provided for them in each situation (Exodus 15:22 – 17:16). In Exodus 18, Moses is reunited with his family at Mount Sinai (18:1-12). He then receives advice from his father-in-law about a leadership matter (vv.13-27).

1. In Exodus 18:3-4, we are introduced to Moses' sons. *Gershom* sounds like the Hebrew name for 'foreigner.' *Eliezer* means 'My God is helper.' Why did Moses pick these names for his sons? What does this tell us about the significance of naming a child?
2. According to Exodus 18:9-12, how did Jethro respond to the news of God's deliverance? Do you think he believed in the Lord prior to the exodus? Or is this his conversion? Or is he merely giving honor to the God of Israel, yet without becoming a follower? Why do you answer the way you do?
3. *Read Exodus 18:13-23.* What does Jethro observe about Moses? What does he advise his son-in-law to do?
4. Within your circles, how are leaders typically chosen? According to Exodus 18:21, how *should* leaders be chosen? Why is each requirement important?

Study Guide, continued

5. How does Jethro's advice for governing Israel compare to Paul's instructions for governing the church (see 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9)?
6. *Read Exodus 18:24-27.* The text does not comment on whether Jethro's advice was sound or misguided. Should Moses have listened to his father-in-law? Why or why not?

Do you delegate well? Or do you try to do everything yourself? If the latter, what might that indicate about you? Spend some time discussing which of Jethro's requirements (v.21) might be least true of yourself, and what you might do to correct that.

Equipping Center Courses—April & May, 2019 beginning April 14

9:00 AM - I Peter
taught by Bruce Rhodes & Daniel Lane

10:45am - Parenting with Intentionality
taught by Adam & Bethel Gascho