

Exodus 18 – Leaders Through The Journey.

I. 1-12: Moses Reunited with Family.

Moses meets with Jethro, his father-in-law, in the desert of Midian. The goodness and greatness of God's work through Moses and for the people of Israel became known. Jethro was the **Priest of Midian** –a descendant of one of Abraham's other children through Keturah named Midian (Genesis 25:1-2). Moses was here re-united with his wife Zipporah and his two sons Gershon and Eliezer.

II. 13-27: Leadership Structure.

It was good for Moses was administering justice, but it was wearisome do that to millions of pilgrims alone. His energies were spent unwisely, and justice was delayed for many in Israel. Moses needed to do two things:

i. Establish a structure.

Rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

For Moses to effectively delegate, he must still have oversight and leadership over those under him. **Delegation is the exercise of leadership, not the abandonment of it.** This was good for Moses. He could focus on the most important things and not be overwhelmed and overstressed by many smaller tasks.

"It is better to set a hundred men to work than to do the work of a hundred men."
(D.L. Moody)

ii. Train leaders to fill their positions.

Teach them the statutes and the laws, show them the way in which they must walk and the work they must do: For Moses to effectively lead and delegate, he had to teach the Word of God not only to those who would hear the disputes, but also those who might dispute.

Mathew 28:19-20 - "Go therefore and **make disciples** of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **"teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you"**; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Ephesians 4:11-12 - And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, **for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.**

2 Timothy 2:2 - And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, **commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.**

- iii. Qualities of the leaders.
- Men of ability: able men
 - Men of godliness: such as fear God
 - Men of God's Word: men of truth
 - Men of integrity: hating covetousness

Nehemiah 7:2 - *Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors, when the gate keepers and the singers and the Levites were appointed, that I gave the charge of Jerusalem to my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the leader of the citadel, **for he was a faithful man, and feared God more than many.***

Psalm 12:1 – *Help, LORD, for the godly man ceases. For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men.*

Acts 6:2-4 – *Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, **full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom**, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.*

- Moses would enjoy life more and be able to do his job better than ever, avoiding the exhaustion of having to settle every dispute.
- The second advantage was that the people would be effectively and efficiently served.