

# PEACE CHURCH ALL BOARDS MEETING

Monday, February 9, 2025

LEARNING MOSES' MINISTRY LESSONS | PASTOR RYAN KIMMEL

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## Exodus 18:13-26

13 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.

### MAIN IDEA

#### JETHRO'S ADVICE TEACHES US:

Large ministries need to adapt by being highly **STRUCTURED** with **SHARED** ministry responsibility in order to be **SUSTAINABLE**.

#### JETHRO'S ADVICE SHOWS US THE WISDOM OF:

1. **STRUCTURED** MINISTRY
2. **SHARED** MINISTRY
3. **SUSTAINABLE** MINISTRY

# LISTENING TO THE WISDOM OF JETHRO:

## 1. **STRUCTURED** MINISTRY:

Larger ministries need order and qualified men

- Leaders in larger ministries need men who are qualified and called, not just

### **FAITHFUL AND COMMITTED:**

- Verse 21a “...able men ...who fear God... trustworthy and hate a bribe”
- Qualifications according to Jethro:
  - Men who can A) **LIVE UP TO THE TASK**, B) **WHO FOLLOW GOD**, C) **WHO ARE HONEST**, and D) **ARE NOT EASILY SWAYED**.
- Structured ministry does not diminish its authenticity, it strengthens it!
  - Verse 21b “...place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens.”
  - This is a clearly **ORDERED** and **DETAILED** org chart!

## 2. **SHARED** MINISTRY:

Larger ministries need men doing God’s work

- Leaders in larger ministries need to know they are empowered to make decisions
  - Verse 22a, “And let them judge the people at all times.”
- Leaders in larger ministries need to understand they are doing true ministry
  - Verse 22b, “...and they will bear the burden with you.”
  - They are not doing this for Moses, but **WITH** him!

## 3. **SUSTAINABLE** MINISTRY:

In order to last, growing ministries must adapt!

- Ministries that adapt for sustainability **LET GOD LEAD** (rather than clinging to the past):
  - Verse 23a, “If you do this, God will direct you...”
- Ministries that adapt for sustainability keep leaders from **BURNING OUT!**
  - Verse 23b, “...you will be able to endure...”
- Ministries that adapt for sustainability **BETTER SERVE PEOPLE:**
  - Verse 23c, “and all this people also will go to their place in peace.”

## 10 LESSONS THAT MOSES, THE LEADER, LEARNED

### 1. **TAKE** CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK

- V17, “Moses' father-in-law said to him, “What you are doing is not good.”
  - Ouch! Father-in-law or mentor, not something a leader wants to hear!

### 2. REALIZE YOUR **LIMITATIONS**

- V18, “You are not able to do it alone.”
  - Moses’ limitations were going to wear out him and the people!

### 3. LISTEN TO **WISDOM**

- V19, “Now obey my voice; I will give you advice, and God be with you!”
  - Caring for people doesn’t mean doing it, it means ensuring it

### 4. KEEP PREACHING **TRUTH**

- V20, “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”
  - Keep teaching people about God’s law and guide people into God’s ways

### 5. **FIND** GREAT LEADERS

- V21, “Moreover, look for able men from all the people...”
  - Be making disciples who can step up and lead

### 6. **RELEASE** LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY

- V22, “And let them judge the people at all times.”
  - Don’t micromanage

### 7. BUILD FOR **SUSTAINABILITY**

- V23, “...you will be able to endure...”
  - We are not meant to burn out but endure!

### 8. **FOLLOW** GODLY ADVICE

- V24, “...and did all that he had said”
  - Don’t just listen, but put it into practice...

### 9. **EMPOWER** GODLY LEADERS

- V25, “Moses chose able men out of all Israel”
  - More than delegation, this is empowerment

### 10. ENTER INTO **DIFFICULTY**

- V26, “Any hard case they brought to Moses, but any small matter they decided themselves.”
  - Take the exceptionally hard things that filter up to you