

May 21st, 2023

# Able

Exodus 18

## Open with prayer

### ***Read for insight into the scripture***

Moses has been at the top of his game, leading the Hebrew people with Aaron at his side to be his mouthpiece. Moses has been meeting with the Lord and doing all the communicating with God on behalf of the needs of the Israelites. As the Hebrew people start to journey their needs grow when it comes to governing the people. Sometimes we are so deep into the thick of it, whatever "it" is for us specifically, that we don't realize how much we are doing. Enter Jethro.

- **Do you have, or have you had someone in your life who will sit and listen to your story and help you by guiding you in wisdom? I.e... a mentor for faith or life? What benefit did this bring to your life?**

Read Exodus 18 slowly as a group together.

- **What stands out to you in this passage?**
- **In Vs. 15 & 16 how many times did Moses use the pronouns "me" or "I"? What does this tell us about the human condition?**
- **Where in your life do you believe that you are the one capable of handling all of something? Do you really believe that this is true?**
- **Vs. 18 - note that Jethro says, you AND YOUR PEOPLE will wear yourselves out. Why do you think that it wears the people out along with their leadership?**
- **Vs. 21-22 Jethro offers a guidepost of sorts to Moses about what kind of people to put in charge and how they can support.**
  - **Able**
  - **Fear God**
  - **Trustworthy**
  - **Hating Bribes - this is a person who is not looking for a way to make gain for himself above the masses**

Andrew referenced the research that says we are the average of the 5 people we surround ourselves with and challenged us to really consider who we surround ourselves with. I want to ask you to talk as a group about how YOU are one of these people. The reality is that we cannot all be Moses. There is only one Moses here, but there are LOTS of leaders that rise up and help keep these people aligned with the Lord in His calling on their lives.

- **Do you believe that you are a person who others can lean on as help in leading the world to see the Kingdom of God come on Earth as it is in Heaven? If someone in your circle feels the weight of leading, do feel like you are a source of leadership to them.**
- **How are you working to be able?**
- **How are you Living in a way that shows you love and fear God/honoring God above all else**
- **How are you proving your trustworthiness?**
- **How are you examining your heart to put the interest of others above your own interest?**
  
- **Vs. 24 -How do we see Moses respond?**  
Moses seems to have a teachable spirit. He is not too proud to listen and take heed to the warning of Jethro. Remember that Moses is not a spring chicken, this man would have been 80 years old. Still teachable.

### ***Practice:***

Take some time this week to assess who you are surrounding yourself with and how you are striving to walk in holiness.

- Be humble enough to confess that you can't do this on your own.
- Be willing to receive the saving grace of Jesus.
- Be surrounded by a company of supporters who help where you fall short.
- Be one who helps and serves others.

### **Quotes from the sermon:**

*"In 1995, the French intellectual Pascal Bruckner published "The Temptation of Innocence," in which he argued that excessive individualism paradoxically leads to in-group/out-group tribalism. Modern individualism releases each person from social obligation, but 'being guided only by the lantern of his own understanding, the individual loses all assurance of a place, an order, a definition. He may have gained freedom, but he has lost security.'"*

-David Brooks, Seattle Times

*"Men called by God to lead are always in danger of attempting to encompass more than they are able."*

-G Campbell Morgan

*"According to research by social psychologist Dr. David McClelland of Harvard, [the people you habitually associate with] determine as much as 95 percent of your success or failure in life."*

-Darren Hardy, The Compound Effect

May 21-27

*“When we live our lives in isolation, what we have is unavailable and what we lack is unprocurable”*

-Basil

*“Covenant Community is like air. We don’t miss it, until we need it.”*

-Tim Keller

*“Our communities are meant to breathe life...but many of us inadvertently would rather suffocate alone.”*

-Andrew Beard

*“Convenience is rarely the best option.”*

-Andrew Beard

Anyone have any thoughts or questions?

## **Prayer Request and closing Prayer**

Ask if anyone has any prayers they would like to add to our prayer team, report back to Sarah. [sarah@thechapelatseaside.com](mailto:sarah@thechapelatseaside.com)