

THE EXPANDING KINGDOM



¹³The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening. ¹⁴When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, “What is this you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?”

Exodus 18:13-26 (NIV)



¹⁵Moses answered him, “Because the people come to me to seek God’s will. ¹⁶Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God’s decrees and instructions.” ¹⁷Moses’ father-in-law replied, “What you are doing is not good.

Exodus 18:13-26 (NIV)



¹⁸You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone.

¹⁹Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you. You must be the people's representative before God and bring their disputes to him.

Exodus 18:13-26 (NIV)



²⁰Teach them his decrees and instructions,
and show them the way they are to live and
how they are to behave. ²¹But select capable
men from all the people—men who fear God,
trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—
and appoint them as officials over thousands,
hundreds, fifties and tens.

Exodus 18:13-26 (NIV)



²²Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every difficult case to you; the simple cases they can decide themselves. That will make your load lighter, because they will share it with you. ²³If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied.”

Exodus 18:13-26 (NIV)



²⁴Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said. ²⁵He chose capable men from all Israel and made them leaders of the people, officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. ²⁶They served as judges for the people at all times. The difficult cases they brought to Moses, but the simple ones they decided themselves.

Exodus 18:13-26 (NIV)



A Growing Church Requires
A Growing Leadership.



Senior Leaders Have To Focus On Their Primary Call

You must **be the people's representative** before God and bring their disputes to him.

²⁰**Teach them** his decrees and instructions, and **show them the way** they are to live and how they are to behave.

Exodus 18:19b-20 (NIV)



Moses' Primary Call Was:

1. To Pray and Bring People Before God
2. To Teach the Commands By Explaining Them to the People



²So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.

Acts 6:2-5 (NIV)



We will turn this responsibility over to them
⁴and will give our attention to prayer and the
ministry of the word.” ⁵This proposal pleased
the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man
full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip,
Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and
Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.

Acts 6:2-5 (NIV)

Capable Men And Women Are Appointed To Serve

But select capable men from all the people—men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain—and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens.

Exodus 18:21 (NIV)



Capable Men And Women Are Appointed To Serve

Capable: Possessing strength, courage
and resources

God Fearing: Close relationship with God

Able to Judge: Possessing wisdom to judge

Full of Integrity: Unbiased and unbribable



¹⁶The Lord said to Moses: “Bring me seventy of Israel’s elders who are known to you as leaders and officials among the people. Have them come to the tent of meeting, that they may stand there with you. ¹⁷I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the power of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them. They will share the burden of the people with you so that you will not have to carry it alone.

Numbers 11:16-17 (NIV)



Members Continue To Take Their Place In Service

They served as judges for the people at all times. The difficult cases they brought to Moses, but the simple ones they decided themselves.

Exodus 18:26 (NIV)



Top 3 Reasons Why People Don't Serve In the Church:

1. They don't feel equipped or qualified enough.
2. They are hurting.
3. They are lazy.

-Ed Stetzer, *Christianity Today*



“There is nothing like the local church when it’s working right. Its beauty is indescribable. Its power is breathtaking. Its potential is unlimited. It comforts the grieving and heals the broken in the context of community. It builds bridges to seekers and opens its arms to the forgotten, the downtrodden, and the disillusioned...”



"It breaks the chains of addictions, frees the oppressed, and offers belonging to the marginalized of this world. Whatever capacity for human suffering, the church has a greater capacity for healing and wholeness."

-Bill Hybels

