## People

## Exodus 18

# speak, for your servant is listening



The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening. When 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?"

Moses answered him, "Because the people come to me to seek God's will. Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God's decrees and instructions." Moses' father-in-law replied, "What you are doing is not good. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone.

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

Have 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. If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied." Moses listened to his fatherin-law and did everything he said.



GOD SPEAKS THROUGH PEOPLE TO OFFER A FRESH PERSPECTIVE

When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people...

Moses was Going to Wear Himself Out

Moses was Too Close We Tend to Have Blind Spots

Give God Permission, Give People Permission To Speak Wisdom, Direction, Confirmation



#### GOD SPEAKS THROUGH LEADERS TO POINT YOU TO GOD'S WILL

Moses answered him, "Because the people come to me to seek God's will.

The People Want to Know the Will of God Be Intentional to Seek Insight

Ask God to Speak to Us Through a Spiritual Leader

> Intentional Voices Pastor, Teacher, Author



#### GOD SPEAKS THROUGH BELIEVERS TO SURROUND YOU WITH GODLY COUNSEL

But select capable men from all the people...

Keep Being the Leader But Decentralize

Hearing God Speak in Random, Likely Places Divine Conversations

God Speaks Through the Body of Christ Built Up By One Another



### GOD SPEAKS THROUGH OTHERS TO LEAD YOU TO ACTIVE OBEDIENCE

Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said.

Moses was Teachable

Consider Advice Consider Potentially Positive Changes See if God May be Speaking Who Will You Allow To Speak Into Your Life?