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Share testimonies and division of labor

In the Bible, there are several passages that emphasize the importance of shared testimony and division of labor. Here are some of the relevant scriptures:

Share testimonials:

Acts 1:8 - "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

1Peter 3:15 - "Respond with gentleness and reverence to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you,"

Colossians 4:6 - "Always be kind to your speech, seasoned with salt, so that you will know how to answer everyone."

Division of labor and cooperation:

1 Corinthians 12:12 - "Just as the body is one, and has many parts; and the members, though many, are one body. So also is Christ."

1 Corinthians 12:27 - "Ye are the body of Christ, and each of its members."

1 Corinthians 3:9 - "For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field and God's builder."

These verses remind us that in the Christian life it is our mission to share our testimony, to communicate God's love and grace to others. At the same time, the division of labor and cooperation is an important part of the Christian community. We each have different gifts and talents, and we assist each other and work together to build the kingdom of God. In this way, we can more effectively fulfill the mission God has given us, manifest the glory of God, and support each other in the journey of faith.

Let us pray together

Dear heavenly father,

Thank you for giving us life and strength each day and for contributing to your kingdom in our work. Lord, we are asking for Your help and guidance here, because we are facing a huge workload and need capable people to assist us. Please send suitable co-workers, let us work together, support each other, and witness your grace and power together.

Lord, we know that in the face of difficulties and challenges, we need to look to You. Please increase our wisdom and courage so that we can effectively accomplish the task at hand. May You grant us the humility to accept help from others and to share our testimony with others.

Please make our work not only for our own achievement and benefit, but also to glorify your holy name. Help us, Lord, to give You all the glory, knowing that all our talents and opportunities come from You.

During this journey, Lord, keep our hearts from being clouded by pride and selfishness. Let us always remember Your grace and treat our fellow workers and people with humility. Please unite us with love and tolerance so that we can become a caring team.

Thank You, Father, for we know that You hear our prayers when we look to You and ask in faith. Please grant us wisdom, strength and peace, and let us witness Your wonderful deeds in our work.

In the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

Exodus CHAPTER 18

Ex. 18:1 Now Jethro, the priest of Midian and father-in-law of Moses, heard of everything God had done for Moses and for his people Israel, and how the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt.

Ex. 18:2 After Moses had sent away his wife Zipporah, his father-in-law Jethro received her

Ex. 18:3 and her two sons. One son was named Gershom, for Moses said, "I have become an alien in a foreign land";

Ex. 18:4 and the other was named Eliezer, for he said, "My father's God was my helper; he saved me from the sword of Pharaoh."

Ex. 18:5 Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, together with Moses' sons and

wife, came to him in the desert, where he was camped near the mountain of God.

Ex. 18:6 Jethro had sent word to him, “I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons.”

Ex. 18:7 So Moses went out to meet his father-in-law and bowed down and kissed him. They greeted each other and then went into the tent.

Ex. 18:8 Moses told his father-in-law about everything the LORD had done to Pharaoh and the Egyptians for Israel’s sake and about all the hardships they had met along the way and how the LORD had saved them.

Ex. 18:9 Jethro was delighted to hear about all the good things the LORD had done for Israel in rescuing them from the hand of the Egyptians.

Ex. 18:10 He said, “Praise be to the LORD, who rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians and of Pharaoh, and who rescued the people from the hand of the Egyptians.

Ex. 18:11 Now I know that the LORD is greater than all other gods, for he did this to those who had treated Israel arrogantly.”

Ex. 18:12 Then Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, brought a burnt offering and other sacrifices to God, and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses’ father-in-law in the presence of God.

Ex. 18:13 The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood round him from morning till evening.

Ex. 18:14 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

round you from morning till evening?”

Ex. 18:15 Moses answered him, “Because the people come to me to seek God’s will.

Ex. 18:16 Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God’s decrees and laws.”

Ex. 18:17 Moses’ father-in-law replied, “What you are doing is not good.

Ex. 18:18 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.

Ex. 18:19 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.

Ex. 18:20 Teach them the decrees and laws, and show them the way to live and the duties they are to perform.

Ex. 18:21 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.

Ex. 18:22 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.

Ex. 18:23 If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied.”

Ex. 18:24 Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said.

Ex. 18:25 He chose capable men from all Israel and made them leaders

of the people, officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens.

Ex. 18:26 They served as judges for the people at all times. The difficult cases they brought to Moses, but the simple ones they decided themselves.

Ex. 18:27 Then Moses sent his father-in-law on his way, and Jethro returned to his own country.

Chapter 18 of Exodus in the Bible tells the story of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, coming to visit him in the wilderness. Jethro brings Moses' wife and children with him and offers a sacrifice to God.

The next day, Jethro observes Moses' leadership style and advises him to delegate some of his responsibilities to other capable leaders in order to ease his workload. Moses takes Jethro's advice and appoints leaders to assist him in judging the people.

Later in the chapter, the Israelites arrive at Mount Sinai, and Moses goes up to speak with God. Jethro, impressed with Moses' leadership and the Israelites' story, acknowledges the greatness of God and rejoices with Moses.

The chapter concludes with Jethro returning to his own land, while the Israelites continue on their journey to the promised land with God leading them.

the key verses Chapter 18 of Exodus in the Bible

Exodus chapter 18 recounts the visit of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, to the Israelite camp in the wilderness. Jethro brings with him Moses' wife and children, and offers counsel and support to Moses as he leads the Israelites.

Here are some key verses from Exodus chapter 18:

1. "Now Jethro, the priest of Midian and father-in-law of Moses, heard of everything God had done for Moses and for his people Israel, and how the Lord had brought Israel out of Egypt" (Exodus 18:1): This verse introduces Jethro and highlights his awareness of God's actions on behalf of the Israelites.
2. "Moses told his father-in-law about everything the Lord had done to Pharaoh and the Egyptians for Israel's sake and about all the hardships they had met along the way and how the Lord had saved them" (Exodus 18:8): This verse highlights the significance of Moses' experiences in Egypt and the wilderness, and how they shape his leadership of the Israelites.

3. "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" (Exodus 18:17-18): This verse captures Jethro's advice to Moses about delegating responsibility and sharing the burden of leadership with others.

4. "Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you" (Exodus 18:19): This verse highlights the importance of Jethro's advice, which is grounded in his understanding of God's ways and purposes.

5. "If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied" (Exodus 18:23): This verse emphasizes the practical benefits of Jethro's advice, and how it can enable Moses to lead the Israelites effectively and ensure their well-being.

Overall, Exodus chapter 18 offers valuable insights into the nature of leadership and the importance of wise counsel and support. It also highlights the significance of Jethro as a figure who offers guidance and encouragement to Moses, and recognizes the power and authority of the God of Israel.

Here's a reflection on Exodus chapter 18:

Exodus chapter 18 introduces us to Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, who pays a visit to the Israelites in the wilderness. This chapter recounts the encounter between Jethro and Moses, where Jethro offers wisdom and counsel regarding the organization and administration of the Israelite community.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the importance of wise counsel and delegation of responsibilities. Jethro observes that Moses is overwhelmed with the task of judging and resolving disputes among the people. He advises Moses to appoint capable and trustworthy individuals to assist him in handling the everyday matters of the community. By doing so, Moses would be able to focus on the most critical matters and prevent burnout.

Jethro's counsel emphasizes the significance of shared leadership and the recognition that one person cannot bear the burden of leadership alone. It teaches us the value of seeking wisdom and advice from others who can provide fresh perspectives and practical solutions. It also highlights the importance of delegation, recognizing the strengths and abilities of others and empowering them to contribute to the well-being of the community.

Another important theme in this chapter is the recognition and acknowledgment of God's work and intervention. Jethro, upon hearing of all that God has done for the Israelites, offers a sacrifice and acknowledges that Yahweh is greater than all other gods. His response is a testament to the faithfulness and power of God in delivering His people.

Reflecting on Exodus chapter 18, we can draw several lessons for our own lives. Firstly, it reminds us of the value of seeking wise counsel and involving others in leadership and decision-making. Just as Moses received guidance from Jethro, we can benefit from the wisdom and insights of those who have experience and expertise in different areas. It encourages us to cultivate a humble attitude that is open to learning from others.

Secondly, this chapter underscores the importance of delegation and recognizing the strengths of others. As leaders, we may sometimes feel overwhelmed by the responsibilities before us. However, by sharing the load and empowering others, we create an environment of collaboration and enable the gifts and talents of others to flourish. It allows us to focus on the tasks that require our specific attention and expertise.

Furthermore, Exodus chapter 18 highlights the significance of acknowledging and worshiping God for His faithfulness and intervention. Just as Jethro recognized the greatness of Yahweh, we should continually offer our gratitude and praise to God for His provision, guidance, and deliverance in our lives. It reminds us to keep our focus on God and to acknowledge His sovereignty over all other gods or powers in our lives.

In conclusion, Exodus chapter 18 presents a valuable lesson on wise counsel, delegation, and the recognition of God's work. It calls us to seek the advice and perspectives of others, to delegate responsibilities, and to acknowledge and worship God for His faithfulness. By reflecting on these lessons, we can cultivate effective leadership, foster collaboration, and maintain a posture of humility and gratitude in our relationship with God and others.