

Spreading and Serving

Points to Ponder: (With your table discuss 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and the questions which follow.)

2 Timothy 3:16-17 Complete Jewish Bible (CJB)

¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is valuable for teaching the truth, convicting of sin, correcting faults and training in right living; ¹⁷thus anyone who belongs to God may be fully equipped for every good work.

1. What is the purpose of learning Torah? Learning Hebrew?
2. What am I doing with what I learn here and from the word?
3. How am I representative of my Father in the world?

We have a relational God

- Relationship to individuals
- Relationship to corporate such as churches and nations
- Yitro/Jethro had a relationship with Moses (father in law)
 - The power of Testimony Exodus 18:8-11

Exodus 18:8-11 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

⁸Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, all the hardship that had befallen them on the journey, and *how* the LORD had delivered them. ⁹Jethro rejoiced over all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, in delivering them from the hand of the Egyptians. ¹⁰So Jethro said, "Blessed be the LORD who delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of Pharaoh, *and* who delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. ¹¹Now I know that the LORD is greater than all the gods; indeed, it was proven when they dealt proudly against the people."

1 Peter 2:9 (NASB)

⁹But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

- What difference did that relationship have on Jethro?
- We are representatives of God to the world.
- Priests – Where are you serving?



Godly counsel:

- Counsel defined – advice, guidance, counseling, direction, information; a policy or plan of action or behavior
- Jethro gave some godly advice to Moses.

Exodus 18:17-23 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

¹⁷ Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you are doing is not good. ¹⁸ You will surely wear out, both yourself and these people who are with you, for the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. ¹⁹ Now listen to me: I will give you counsel, and God be with you. You be the people's representative before God, and you bring the disputes to God, ²⁰ then teach them the statutes and the laws, and make known to them the way in which they are to walk and the work they are to do. ²¹ Furthermore, you shall select out of all the people able men who fear God, men of truth, those who hate dishonest gain; and you shall place *these* over them as leaders of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties and of tens. ²² Let them judge the people at all times; and let it be that every major dispute they will bring to you, but every minor dispute they themselves will judge. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear *the burden* with you. ²³ If you do this thing and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people also will go to their place in peace."

Discuss the following Questions in light of Exodus 18:17-23.

- What was the counsel and why was this important to both Moses and the People?
- What do I learn from this about life in a body of believers, organization, family and my life?
- Moses listened and did what Jethro advised. How do you know if advice you are getting is godly? How do you know if you should follow that advice?

How to know if Counsel is godly:

- Do you see the pattern in scripture – does it follow or contradict it?
- What does the Holy Spirit say?
- The word and the Holy Spirit work together, they will not contradict. All advice should go through these filters, rather than opinion and worldly thinking.

Proverbs 11:14 Where there is no guidance the people fall, But in abundance of counselors there is victory.

How to choose counselors:

- Choose people who love the Word and love God.
- Choose people who act on the Word.
- Choose people who point you to Christ Messiah and walk with you to Him and in His ways.

So we know Jethro's advice was Good.

Spreading: Colossians 3:16-17

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a **representative** of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

Mark 8:6-7 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

⁶And He directed the people to sit down on the ground; and taking the seven loaves, He gave thanks and broke them, and started giving them to His disciples to serve to them, and they served them to the people. ⁷They also had a few small fish; and after He had blessed them, He ordered these to be served as well.

Galatians 5:13 New American Standard Bible (NASB)

¹³For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

Key points on spreading responsibility

- The advice was to spread responsibility around. This would give both Moses and the people rest and peace.
- People other than Moses were given responsibilities.
- Every tribe in Israel had responsibilities. Each family were responsible for a position and action whether to guard, or to care for and carry parts of the tabernacle. All had a place of service.
- We also have a place of service if we are daughters of the King. We have opportunities to represent Him to the world and serve as He would serve in many ways.
- Within El Shaddai we can spread some responsibility.
 - How can you share some of the responsibility of service here?
 - How can and do you share some responsibility at home, work, in your community?

How to choose counselors:

- Choose people who love the Word and love God.
- Choose people who act on the Word, not just talk it.
- Choose people who point you to Christ the Messiah and walk with you to Him and in His ways.

When we serve, we become partners in the work of God our Father.

- We spread the work around so that more can be done of what Abba wants to do.
- We represent Him and partner with Him in the work of building the Kingdom of God.
- We can also partner with ministry outside of El Shaddai
 - Family, Tribe, Jerusalem, Judea and the world. (Acts 1:8)

How can we partner with God beyond the world (Tekkun Olam/repair the world)

- Prayer
- Accountability partners
- Be sent out (start serving in ministries we believe in here and in the world)
- Give money and supplies to provide so that the ministry can take place.

My Plan of Action: