

# Growth Group Leader Guide

This “growth group leader guide” is meant to be just that, a guide. Please feel free as the leader of your group to add questions or comments, as you feel necessary to fit your group’s dynamics.

Also, don’t feel pressured to cover every question.

## Jethro’s Advice – April 3, 2022

- What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend’s message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.

### 4 Points of Sunday’s Sermon

- Israel’s Problem
- Jethro’s Advice
- Jethro’s Wisdom
- Moses’ Humility

#### I. Israel’s Problem

- **Read and discuss** Exodus 18:13-18
- Why do you think Jethro was concerned for Moses and Israel? What does he specifically say in verse 17 and 18?
- Discuss Moses’ response to Jethro in Exodus 18:15-16. Do you think Moses was blinded to the problem Jethro saw so clearly? If so, why?
- Why is it that others can sometimes see our faults (or blind spots) more clearly than ourselves? Do you invite others to speak into your life, and if so, how?
- What does Proverbs 4:7 mean and what are some practical ways you can live by it?
- What do you think James 1:5 means? What are some ways God gives wisdom generously?

## II. Jethro's Advice

- According to Jethro in verse 19 & 20, what were Moses' two most important jobs?
  - **Leader's cheat:** *Prayer (v. 19) and Teaching (v.20)*
- In light of verses 19 & 20, why do you think Jethro was so concerned for Moses and Israel? What was his practical advice in verses 21 & 22?
- Compare Jethro's advice in Exodus 18:19-22 to Acts 6:1-4. What do we learn in both?
- What does Exodus 18:19-22 and Acts 6:1-4 teach us about the importance of teaching and prayer?
- Why is teaching and prayer so important for the leadership of the Church?
- Do you believe the average American church sees teaching and praying as a high priority? Why or why not?

## III. Jethro's Wisdom

- What was so wise about Jethro's advice given in Exodus 18:19-22?
- How is our government set up in a similar way to the advice Jethro gave to Moses? Do you think Exodus 18 had some influence on our founding fathers?
- In verse 21, Jethro advises Moses to pick men who are qualified. What 4 qualifications does Jethro suggest, and why would these qualifications be important for the leaders of Israel?
- **Read Titus 1:5-9** and discuss the qualifications of an elder. Compare and contrast the qualifications in Titus 1:5-9 with the qualifications found in Exodus 18:21.
- Even if you are not called to fulltime ministry and/or the office of overseer, what are some practical ways you can strive to be a man or a woman characterized by the list mentioned in Titus 1:5-9 and Exodus 18:21?

## VI. Moses' Humility

- Read and discuss the following verses concerning wisdom.
  - Proverbs 13:1
  - Ephesians 6:1-3
  - Proverbs 16:16
  - Job 12:12
- Do you personally seek out wisdom? If so, how?
- In what ways could Moses have been tempted to be prideful?
- In what way is verse 24 simple, yet remarkable? Read Numbers 12:3 to help answer this question.
- **Discuss the following quote**, “You have to be humble enough to realize you need wisdom, to gain wisdom.” How does James 1:5 and Proverbs 4:7 relate to this quote?
- **Read and discuss** Proverbs 12:15. If you are critical by nature, and always seem to be the one who is “right” in your own heart, according to this proverb, what most likely are you?
- What are some practical ways we can protect ourselves from being the fool talked about in Proverbs 12:15?

## Final Prayer –

- *Lord, I lack wisdom, counsel, strength, understanding, prudence in your holy fear. The fullness of these are in you; Lord, it is for your glory to help your poor servant, and bestow some measure of these upon me to do your own work with. Lo! Lord, I lay myself down to you to work by me. I have an angry spirit, full of tossing and turmoilings, but you are the Prince of Peace, abounding in meekness. Oh bestow on me such a meek and peaceable spirit, as, learning of you, I may be meek and lowly in heart. -Richard Sibbs 1577-1635*