

# God's Mighty Hand



Lesson 9

## Moses Judges Israel

**Theme:** People can help each other in life and in doing God's will.

### Memory Verse

"Then the cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle."  
Exodus 40:34

### Daily Bible Readings

Thursday Exodus 2:16-22; 3:1  
Friday Exodus 18:1-12  
Saturday Exodus 18:13-16  
Monday Exodus 18:17-23  
Tuesday Exodus 18:24-27

**P**eople heard the news of all God had done for Moses and Israel. God was making Himself known by His mighty works, and people were learning about Him. Some people came to know and honor Him as the one true God. Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, heard the news about God's mighty works. Moses sent his wife, Zipporah, and their two sons, Gershom and Eliezer, to Midian to bring Jethro to Sinai where Moses was camped "at the mount of God."

### Moses Tells Jethro about God

When Moses and his father-in-law Jethro met, Moses told of all God had



**Exodus 2:16-22;  
Exodus 3:1**

Moses' wife was named \_\_\_\_\_.

Moses' father-in-law was named \_\_\_\_\_.



### Exodus 18:1-12

Match the following:

- |                   |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Gershom & Eliezer | Moses' wife                      |
| Moses             | Moses' sons                      |
| Zipporah          | offered sacrifices to God        |
| Jethro            | told his father-in-law about God |

done. He told about the plagues in Egypt and how hard it was for Israel to escape. Moses told of all the ways God had delivered His people. When Jethro heard about God, he was happy and honored Him.

At this time, most people worshiped many gods. God wanted them to know He was the only true God. Jethro was learning this and said, "Now I know that the Lord is greater than all the gods." Jethro honored the Lord with sacrifices. An important thing each of us can do is tell others how God has been good to us. By doing this, someone may learn about God and want to serve Him.

### Moses Judges the People

Each day Moses would sit in a place to judge the people. This means he would tell people God's will. This was to help them make right decisions and get along with each other. Moses was only one man, and many people needed his help. He would sit all day long to judge the people.

Jethro saw what Moses was doing and asked him about it. Moses explained that he felt he needed to help the people by asking God about their problems. Jethro observed that if Moses kept doing this every day he would wear out. The work was too much for one man to do alone.

Jethro suggested that instead of judging every case, Moses could use some

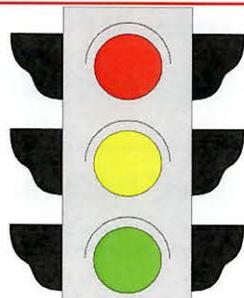
### Exodus 18:13-16

When Moses judged the people, he: (circle all correct)

- wore special robes
- settled disagreements
- told them God's law
- put them in prison



When I have a problem with a friend, I look for an answer from God.



- Put an X in the light that best describes you.
- Red — almost never
- Yellow — sometimes
- Green — most of the time

cases as examples and teach the people God's will. In this way, people could work out some things for



### Exodus 18:17-23

List two suggestions Jethro gave Moses:

- 1.
- 2.

themselves. Jethro also suggested that Moses choose other men to help with the judging.

Moses saw the wisdom of Jethro's advice and took it to heart. Moses appointed capable and honest men to help him, men whom people would respect. They would judge in lesser matters and bring the harder ones to Moses. This made it possible for people to get along with each other without Moses judging all the cases.

### Helping Each Other

From these events, we can learn at least two valuable lessons. One lesson is that other people can sometimes help us see things we don't see clearly. Hold this page up as close to your eyes as you can. When you do, can you see it clearly? Now hold it away from your eyes as usual. Now, can you read it? Sometimes we are so close to something we don't see the situation clearly. Jethro helped Moses see he was trying to do too much. Other people can help us see things better. We should listen to other people's ideas and suggestions.

A second lesson is that other people can help us do things we cannot do alone. Some work is too hard or too much for one person. All of us need help at times. Moses needed other men's help in judging the people. We should give help when we can and receive help when we need it. Especially, we should help each other do God's will and serve Him.



### Exodus 18:24-27

What cases were given to Moses?

easy                  hard

What cases were given to the helpers?

easy                  hard



Fill in the chart below by listing things on the left that you are good at and are willing to share with others. On the right list things you need help with.

I'm good at...	I need help with...

## High Five for the Bible Facts!



Which book in the Old Testament is about being holy, priests and sacrifices?

Right now, in your Bible find the book of Isaiah without using the table of contents or index tabs. Now find Romans, then Titus.

On a map inside the back cover, find the major regions of Canaan—Southern part or Negev, Hill Country, Coastal Plain and Transjordan.