

## Growing Older & Wiser Bible Study IV: When the Kids Are Grownups Too – Exodus 18

### Opening Questions:

- 1) What kinds of circumstances would move you to intervene and offer advice to a younger adult that you know?

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- 2) Do you think younger adults would be more likely to take the advice of an older adult who affirms what they do well while also pointing out ways to change what they don't do well into something done well or the advice of an older adult who just offers suggestions for correcting wrong actions? Why or why not?

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### Going Deep:

1. It would be very unusual for a father to take in his married daughter and her children if her husband is still alive. Yet, Jethro does that and then returns the family to Moses once it appears safe to do so. What does that and the rest of verses 2-8 tell you about the relationship that Moses and Jethro share?

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2. How does Jethro show respect for Moses and the God that Moses serves?

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3. What did Jethro do when he notice Moses doing something that appeared unwise?

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4. What’s the advantage of observing and clarifying the actions of fellow believers that appear to be unwise before offering them advice on how to do things better?

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5. The confidence Jethro places in Moses and Moses’ God is surprising considering that Jethro is a priest from another faith tradition. Yet, God still uses Jethro to strengthen Moses’ faith, help him make wiser choices and ensure that the faith community has what it needs without overworking their leader. Has God ever used someone from a different faith tradition and/or church community to re-affirm your faith? If so, how?