THE CO-OP • MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

What Have Your In-Laws Taught You?

Episode 31 | Released Nov 18 | Discussion: Tuesday, November 24

READING 1

Read Exodus 18:13–18

Commentary

Moses sits to judge the people from morning till evening. Jethro watches and says, "What you are doing is not good. You and the people will wear yourselves out." An outsider can often see the unsustainable pattern that the man inside it cannot. In-laws sometimes carry that clarifying perspective.

1. What problem does Jethro notice in Moses' leadership?

2. Why might someone outside the situation see a problem more clearly than the one living in it?

3. How does Jethro's concern for both Moses and the people show wisdom?

READING 2

Read Exodus 18:19–23

Commentary

Jethro advises Moses to teach the people the statutes, then appoint capable men to share the load. The counsel is practical and sustainable. God often delivers wisdom through unexpected voices, including in-laws.

4. What specific advice does Jethro give Moses?

5. How does this counsel protect both Moses and the people?

6. What does it require of Moses to receive advice from his father-in-law?

READING 3

Read Exodus 18:24

Commentary

Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said. The narrative presents this as wisdom, not weakness. A teachable man can receive help from any direction God sends it.

7. How does Moses respond to Jethro's counsel?

8. What is one thing your in-laws have taught you, by word or by example?

9. How can you grow in being teachable with the people God has placed in your extended family?