

CHOSEN TO SERVE GOD'S PURPOSE

WHAT IS GOD'S PURPOSE?

1. **RESCUING** people from slavery and moving them into freedom.

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Isaiah 61:1 / Luke 4:18 (NIV)

2. **EQUIPPING** His people to live lives in alignment with His word.

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1 Peter 2:9-10 (NIV)

3. **INVITING** His people to join Him on His mission. *(Jesus said,) "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

WHAT DOES MOSES' LIFE TEACH US ABOUT SERVING GOD'S PURPOSE?

1. Don't be surprised when God invites you to do something outside of your **EXPERIENCE** and comfort zone.

The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening.

Exodus 18:13

The man said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us?"

Exodus 2:14

2. There is a **LEARNING** curve in serving God's purpose. *14 When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, "What is this you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?" 15 Moses answered him, "Because the people come to me to seek God's will. 16 Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God's decrees and instructions." 17 Moses' father-in-law replied, "What you are doing is not good. 18 You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone.*

Exodus 18:14-18

3. God's purpose requires **SHARED** leadership through multiple environments. *19 Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you. You must be the people's representative before God and bring their disputes to him. 20 Teach them his decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave. 21 But select capable men from all the people – men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain – and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. 22 Have them serve as judges for the people at all times, but have them bring every difficult case to you; the simple cases they can decide themselves.*

Exodus 18:19-22a

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up...
Ephesians 4:11-12

4. Doing God's work God's way produces His RESULTS.
22b That will make your load lighter, because they will share it with you. 23 If you do this and God so commands, you will be able to stand the strain, and all these people will go home satisfied." 24 Moses listened to his father-in-law and did everything he said. 25 He chose capable men from all Israel and made them leaders of the people, officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens. 26 They served as judges for the people at all times. The difficult cases they brought to Moses, but the simple ones they decided themselves. 27 Then Moses sent his father-in-law on his way, and Jethro returned to his own country.

Exodus 18:22b-27

HOW DO WE OBEY EXODUS 18 IN 2017?

1. Which PEOPLE group is God inviting you to serve?
2. Don't let what you don't KNOW stop you from accepting His invitation.
3. Serving God's purpose produces spiritual FULFILLMENT that benefits every area of your life.
4. We need you but you NEED us.

FINAL THOUGHT: God is inviting you, to be on mission with Him, to serve our city. Chets Creek Church is organized to give you multiple ways to be on His mission in our city.