

# *Future Now Bible Study*

## *Developing Empowering Leadership*

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# DEVELOPING EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP <sup>1</sup>

## ICE BREAKER

Share a time when you experienced the truth of the saying "A problem shared is a problem halved"

## READ

Exodus 18:1-27

## EXPLORE

Put yourself in Moses' sandals for a few minutes. Imagine you are off to a day's work 'judging'. (See v13ff)

How would you probably feel after:

Your fifth day on the job?

Your twenty-fifth day on the job?

Now imagine you were one of the parties needing a dispute resolved.  
What would annoy you about the process?

*The situation outlined in verses 13-16 of this chapter is common to many churches with leaders trying to do all the work, and the church people standing around waiting for it to happen. It results in tired, ineffective leaders and disgruntled and frustrated followers.*

*Author Christian Schwartz suggests leaders can better realize their own empowerment by empowering others. 'Rather than handling the bulk of church responsibilities on their own, they invest the majority of the time in discipleship, delegation and multiplication. Thus the energy they expend can be multiplied indefinitely.'<sup>2</sup>*

## **THINK THROUGH**

Verses 19-23

What is the genius of Jethro's suggestion to Moses?

How easy would it be to institute such a process?

What are the possible problems in introducing such a process?

What qualities are called for in the proposed leaders?

What are the benefits to both Moses and the people?

## **REFLECT**

### **In Our Corps**

How would I describe the workload of our Corps Officers and other leaders?

What sort of leadership structure do we currently have in place?

How evenly is the burden of leadership shared?

How does it compare to the structure outlined in Exodus 18:19-23?

V 21, What areas of my life need further development to qualify me for leadership?

What can I do to support, encourage empowering leadership in my Corps?

### **ENDNOTES**

1. This title refers particularly to one of eight quality characteristics attached to the Natural Church Development process devised by Christian Schwartz and utilized in The Salvation Army's 'Future Now' document.
2. Schwartz, NCD, 22,23

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Schwartz, C.A. (1996) Natural Church Development, A Guide to Eight Essential Qualities of Healthy Churches, M.C.E. HOREB, Barcelona, Spain.