

**Moses Gets Advice From His  
Father-in-Law Exodus 18**



**WEEK 9**

**POINT** ➔ **WE THANK  
GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**

Open your Bible to Exodus 18, and show children the words. Have children stand and get ready to act out parts of the passage as described below.

**SAY: The Bible, God's special book, tells us about Moses. Moses went to the desert to meet his father-in-law, Jethro.** Have children walk around the room once.

**They hugged each other.** Have children hug a neighbor.

**The next day, Moses took his seat as judge over the people, helping solve their arguments while everyone stood around him.** Have kids take turns sitting while all the others briefly stand around them.

**Jethro told Moses he shouldn't judge everything all by himself because he'd get too tired.** Have children stretch and yawn.

**Jethro told Moses to put people in groups and to pick leaders for**

those groups to help solve problems. He said that Moses should listen only to the hardest problems.

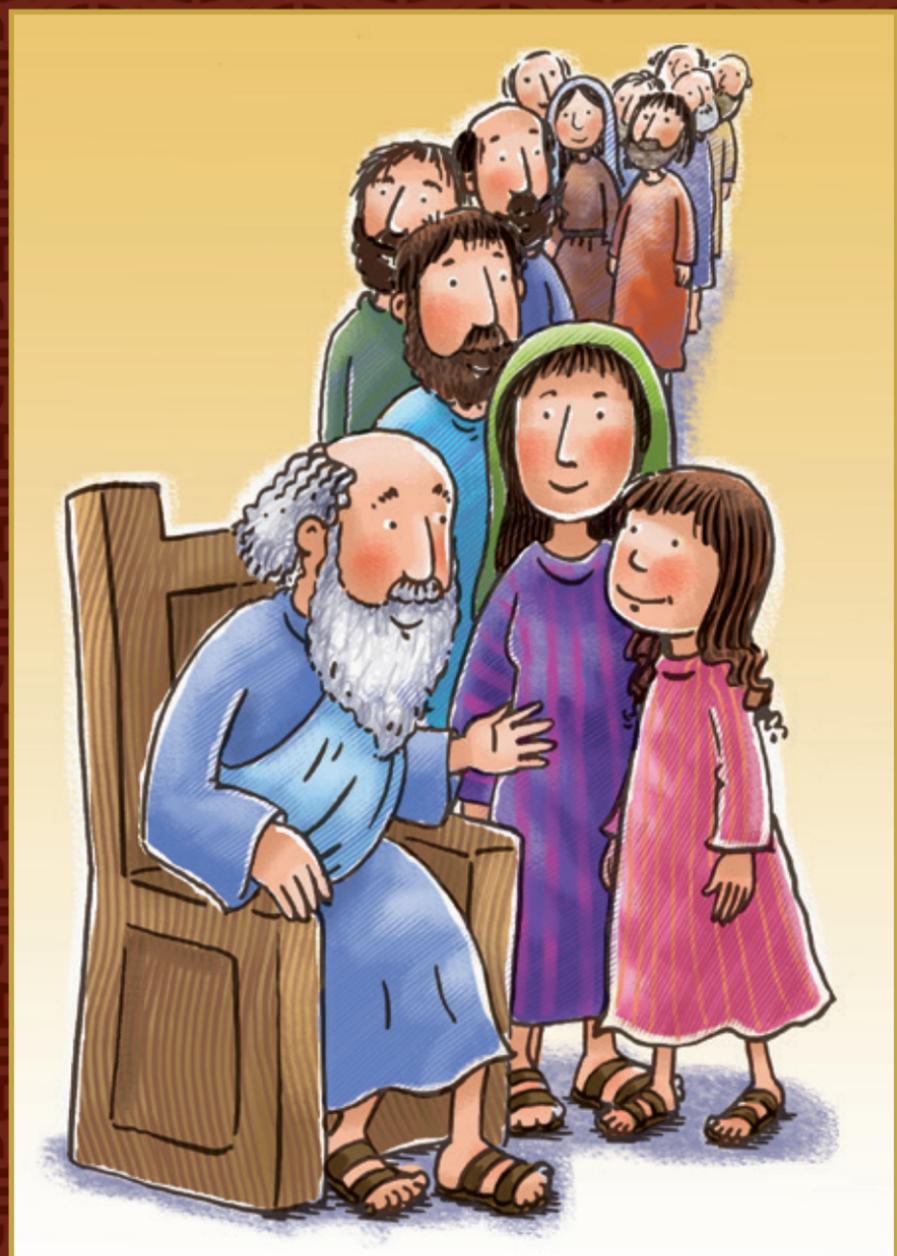
**Moses did everything that Jethro said. Jethro loved Moses, so he gave advice to help Moses. ➔ WE THANK GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**

**ASK: Tell about a time a family member gave you a good tip.**

**Tell about a time you helped a family member find a better way to do something.**

**SAY: God gave Moses a great family to help him do things the best way. When we listen to our parents and other people in our family, we'll find the best way to do things, too! ➔ WE THANK GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES and the way they help us.**





## Moses Gets Advice From His Father-in-Law

Exodus 18

WEEK 9

**POINT** ➔ **WE THANK  
GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**

Have children pair up, and give each pair some *Buzz Play Foam*. Have each pair break the play foam into 10 pieces.

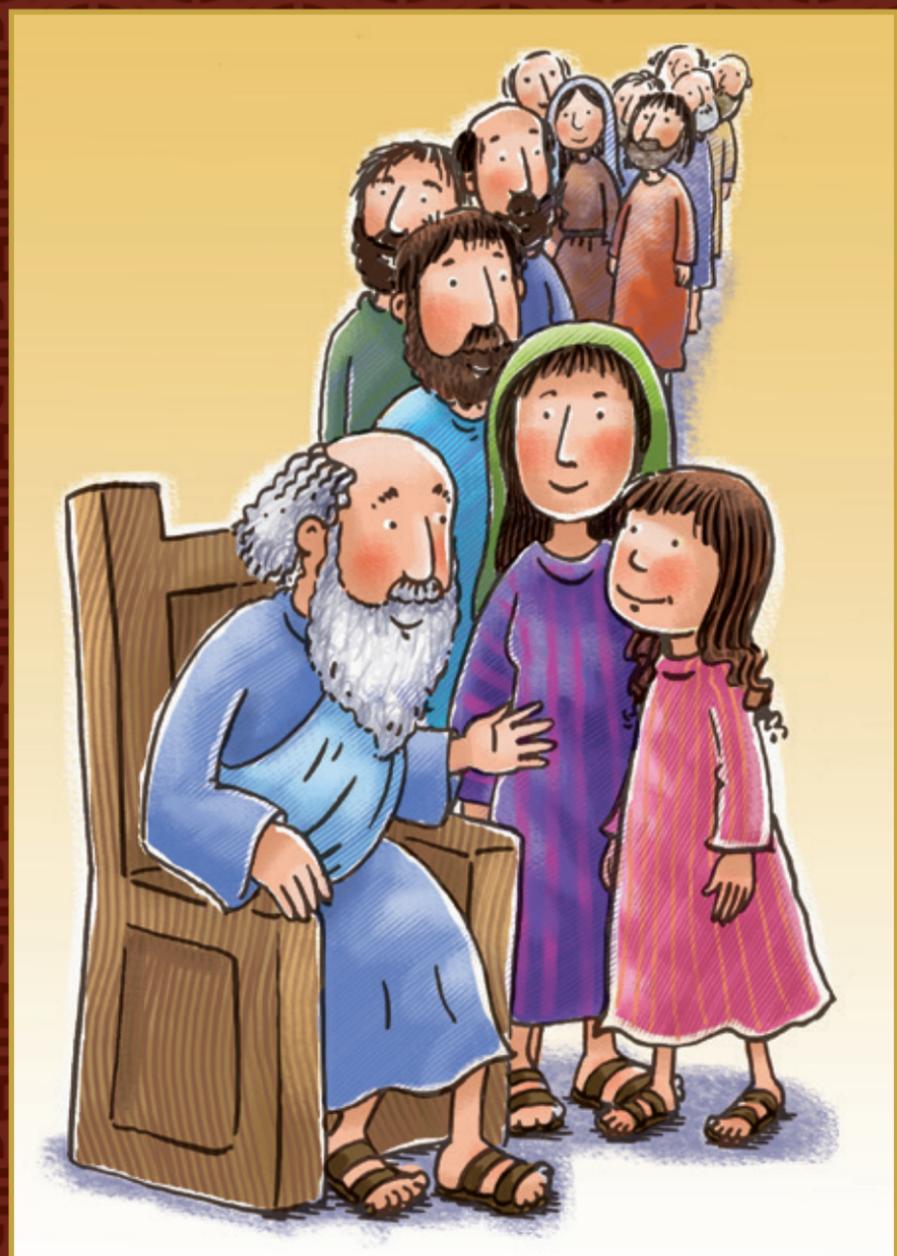
**SAY: Jethro told Moses he should get other leaders to help him so there wouldn't be so many people coming to Moses with their problems. The leaders would share the work with Moses.**

Have kids work together with their partners to make two groups with their pieces of play foam, then three groups, and then five. Each time they form the groups, have the pairs count how many pieces of play foam there are in each group. Help kids as needed.

**ASK: What are some things you do at home that are easier when someone is helping you?**

**What are some things you have to do by yourself that you think are hard?**

**SAY: Putting the people in groups and then choosing leaders for those groups helped Moses by keeping him from having to do too much work. It's always easier when we can share our work with others, especially with those in our families. ➔ WE THANK GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**



## Moses Gets Advice From His Father-in-Law

Exodus 18

WEEK 9

**POINT** ➔ **WE THANK  
GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**

**SAY:** Let's sing a song to show how thankful we are for our families.

Play ● "If You're Thankful and You Know It" (track 12) on the CD. Have kids clap where indicated. The song plays three times on the CD.

**SING:**

**If you're thankful for your family,  
clap your hands!** (*Clap, clap.*)

**If you're thankful for your family,  
clap your hands!** (*Clap, clap.*)

**If you're thankful and you know it,  
Then your life will surely show it.**

*(Raise hands and wave them.)*

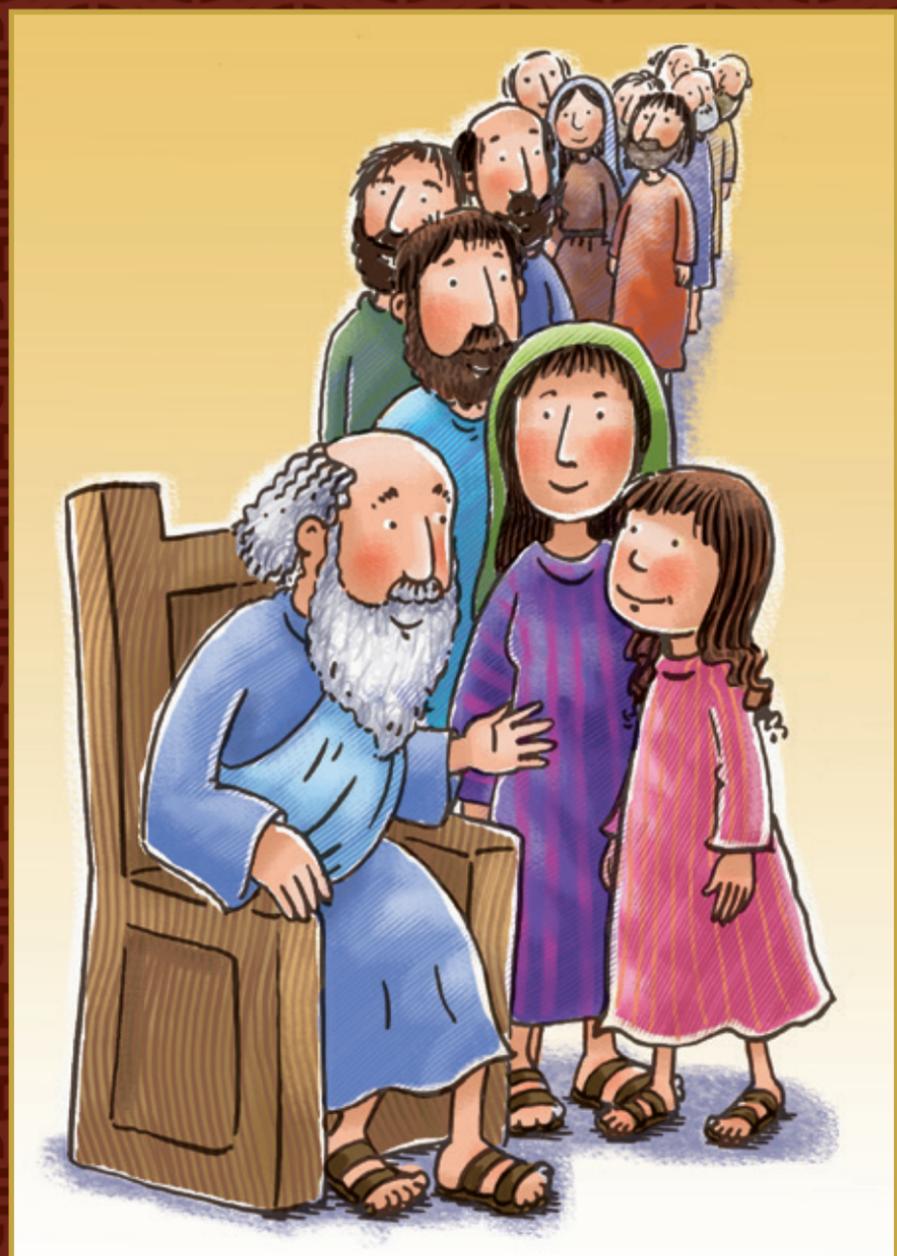
**If you're thankful for your family,  
clap your hands!** (*Clap, clap.*)

**ASK:** Thank God for a family member you don't see very often by telling us why that person is special to you.

Besides clapping your hands in this song, what do you do to show you're thankful for your family?

**SAY:** Moses was probably very thankful that his father-in-law came to see him. There are some people in our family who we don't

see very often. Maybe you have grandparents or an aunt and uncle who live far away. When you see those family members, you can obey and respect them the way Moses did with his father-in-law. That's one way we show ➔ **WE THANK GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**



## Moses Gets Advice From His Father-in-Law

Exodus 18

WEEK 9

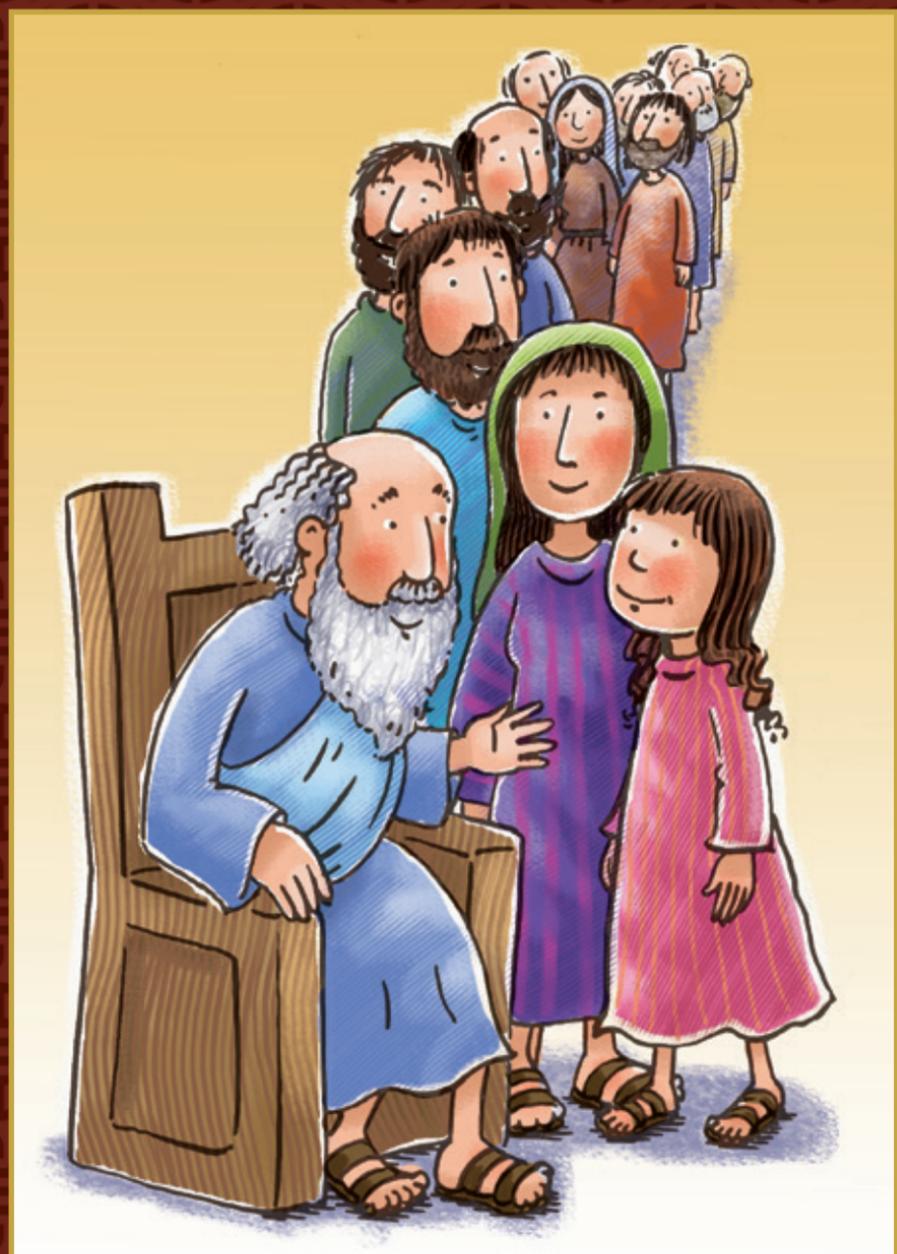
**POINT** ➡ **WE THANK  
GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**

Pass out paper and *Color Switchers Markers*. **SAY:** Think about what happened with Moses and Jethro. Now think about your favorite part of what happened. Using your *Color Switchers Markers*, draw the part you like best.

**ASK:** Tell about your drawing. Why did you pick that part?

If you were going to draw one favorite thing about your family, what would you draw?

**SAY:** We all have many things about our families that we can be thankful for. ➡ **WE THANK GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**



## Moses Gets Advice From His Father-in-Law

Exodus 18

WEEK 9

**POINT** ➤ **WE THANK  
GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**

Form groups of three, and choose a leader for each group. Ask discussion questions one at a time, allowing kids to discuss as groups. Facilitate as needed. After all group members have had time to answer, have the leaders each tag a person in their group to share with everyone. Leaders may tag themselves, but encourage them to tag each person once.

**SAY: Just as Moses took Jethro's advice and picked leaders to speak for the groups, the leaders I picked will choose people to speak for their groups by answering questions.**

**ASK: Relatives such as grandparents, aunts, and uncles can be important parts of a family. They may even live with us! What relatives besides your mom, dad, brothers, or sisters have lived with you?**

Pause for groups to discuss; then have leaders tag someone to share.

**ASK: You're special to your family in many ways. What does your family say they are thankful for about you?**

Pause for groups to discuss; then have leaders tag someone to share.

**ASK: Moses didn't have a very big family. If you have a small family, tell what you like and don't like about its size. If you have a big family, tell what you like and don't like about its size.**

Pause for groups to discuss; then have leaders tag someone to share. After kids have shared, ask children to raise their hands if they have big families. Then have kids with small families raise their hands.

**SAY: No matter the size of your family or who's in it, you're all special to God, and so are your families. ➤ WE THANK GOD FOR OUR FAMILIES.**