

**Exodus**  
**“Upping” Your Leadership Game- Week #12**  
**Small Group Notes**  
**October 22 and 25**

**Main Point:** God draws us out to draw us into victory.

**Introduction:** Think about the roles of a coach and a player on a team. How is each role important? How are they different? What can be the most frustrating part of being a coach? What can be the most frustrating part about being a player?

In today’s discussion, we are going to see the moment in a battle that there was a time that Moses couldn’t be the one to go and fight physically with the Amalekites, yet he fought spiritually against them.

**Discuss:**

1. Read Exodus 17:8-10

- Great leaders have a proper vantage point.
  - o Your vantage point allows you to see clearly and for God to be seen clearly. 1 Corinthians 11:1

Explain: Raising the staff in this case likely symbolized God’s exercise of power (v. 11; 7:20; 14:16,21,26-27). Joshua would go on to serve Moses and succeed him as leader of the Israelites (24:13; Num 27:18-23; Jos 1:1-9). Hur is best known for his part in this event and for Moses trusting him to help the Israelites when Moses was away (24:14).

Ask:

**What was the significance of Moses’ posture during the battle with the Amalekites? What was Joshua’s? What can we learn from both of these examples? (Moses focused on prayer/Joshua focused on obedience)**

**How do you respond in battles? What leads you to trust God to provide when you see no immediate answer in sight?**

## 2. Read Exodus 17:11-13

- Great leaders realize prayer is a matter of life and death.
  - o Pray like history hangs in the balance.
  - o Prayer doesn't eliminate the fight; it just paves the way for victory. Colossians 4:12

Explain: Moses supported the battle behind the scenes, busy in prayer. The fate of Israel in battle depended on Moses' intercession because when he prayed **Israel prevailed** and when he stopped praying **Amalek prevailed**.

Ask: **What can we learn about prayer from Moses' example? What does it mean to "pray like it matters?"**

**How are you being a Moses for someone today in a battle? How can you demonstrate earnestness in your prayer time?**

## 3. Read Exodus 17:12

- Great leaders prioritize community.
  - o It is not enough to have deep commitment or deep convictions, you need deep connections found in community.
  - o Community alters history

Explain: Aaron and Hur came alongside Moses and literally held his hands up in prayer. They helped him and partnered with him in intercession. Their help was successful: **his hands were steady until the going down of the sun**.

Ask: **How do you see the church in these verses? How do these verses to the statements we make about groups, "don't do life alone" or "Gather"?**

**Who are people that you can begin to go to and ask for help in praying in a situation?**

## 4. Read Exodus 17:14-16

- Great leaders raise a banner not a fist.

- Raising a banner means:
  - o I live under His authority
  - o I fight for His kingdom
  - o I praise Him for His victories.

Explain: Though Moses knew his prayer was important, he wasn't foolish enough to think that *he* won the battle. As an act of worship he built an altar and praised the name of *Yahweh-Nissi* (**The-Lord-is-My-Banner**). Read Psalm 60:4 and Isaiah 11:10 for more verse about the Lord being our banner.

Ask: **What was the significance of Moses needing to write this story down? What was the significance of building an altar and naming it? (The Lord used altars as specific events to remember).**

**Do you have any altars in your life where you remember great things God has done? How do these impact you "raising a banner" in your life?**

5. Read Exodus 18:17-18.

- Great leaders are teachable
- You, like Moses, are wrong about something. Proverbs 16:25

Explain: Even after the children of Israel's great victory, when Jethro, Moses' father in law arrived, he was able to see areas that he needed to grow and develop. His father in law was providing much needed accountability to Moses and used this moment as a teachable moment that would help him in the future.

Ask: **Who are people that are in your life that can help you to see blindspots? Why is no one above needing accountability in today's culture?**

**How can you become someone that is more teachable in your life like Moses?**