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GROUP STUDY GUIDE

The Church: His Model – FAQ

TEACHING SUMMARY

This follow-up clarifies objections to a model of leadership centered on Yeshua with a plurality of elders. It identifies Yeshua as the one who fills Moses' central role. Human leaders serve under His authority and must direct believers to the Word rather than take His place as mediator.

Appointing elders recognizes believers who have the maturity and ability to teach and care for others. It does not grant permission to invent instructions. Hebrews 13 calls believers to respond to leaders who speak God's word, and its plural language remains important. Respecting leaders includes testing their teaching and receiving sound instruction.

The leaders appointed in Exodus 18 are considered in terms of their capacity to serve groups of different sizes. The passage is not treated as authorization for a head elder who stands above the other elders. The discussion of Joshua, the chief priest, and later leadership titles likewise returns to the distinction between Messiah's unique authority and the responsibilities of those who serve His people.

Korah's rebellion was directed against the authority God had given Moses. The teaching warns against using that account to silence every question about a modern leader. Since Yeshua occupies the central role, rebellion against His word is the controlling issue. Elders cannot make their own wishes equal to God's commands or claim a right to prevent believers from leaving a congregation.

Binding and loosing concern judgments about what is permitted and prohibited under God's existing instructions. The discussion of Matthew 16 argues that earthly judgments must agree with what heaven has already established. The keys imagery is examined alongside Isaiah 22 and Revelation 3. Leaders apply God's standard; they do not receive authority to add to or subtract from it.

Apostles help establish and equip assemblies, while qualified elders teach and shepherd them. The goal is growth in understanding and obedience. Practical leadership should therefore identify mature teachers, share responsibilities, and remain open to examination by Scripture. Yeshua governs His people through the Word.

SUMMARY POINTS

- The model affirms leadership under Yeshua's unique authority.
- Yeshua fulfills the central role associated with Moses.
- Appointment recognizes qualified elders rather than unlimited personal authority.
- Hebrews 13 describes leaders who speak God's word.
- The Exodus 18 arrangement is discussed in terms of capacity to serve.
- Korah's rebellion must not be used to shield every modern leader from examination.
- Elders cannot make personal wishes equal to divine commands.
- Binding and loosing apply existing instruction to judgments.
- Heaven's authority governs earthly decisions.
- Leadership should equip the body to grow in obedience and maturity.

FILL-IN-THE-BLANK

Basic

1. The one mediator between God and humanity identified in the teaching is _____.
2. The biblical figure whose central leadership role Yeshua fulfills is _____.
3. Qualified local teachers and shepherds are called _____.
4. Hebrews 13 describes leaders who spoke God's _____ to believers.
5. The authority to permit or prohibit is discussed as binding and _____.
6. Leaders may not add to or subtract from God's _____.

Challenging

1. The chapter describing leaders over groups of thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens is Exodus _____.
2. The rebel whose example is sometimes used to silence questions about leaders is _____.
3. The teaching examines the keys of the kingdom in Matthew chapter _____.
4. The Old Testament chapter used in the discussion of the key of David is Isaiah _____.
5. The man associated with that key in Isaiah's account is _____.
6. The Hebrew term discussed for judgments is _____.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why does the teaching say that recognizing Yeshua's role affirms rather than rejects the model associated with Moses?

2. How can believers respect elders while continuing to test their instruction?

3. How does the teaching interpret the groups of different sizes in Exodus 18?

4. Why does it object to using Korah's rebellion to silence questions about a modern leader?

5. How does its explanation of binding and loosing limit the authority of earthly leaders?

6. What does the teaching say leadership should produce in the maturity of the whole body?

ANSWER KEY – GROUP GUIDE

Basic

1. Yeshua — 1 Timothy 2:5
2. Moses — Teaching explanation of the Moses model; Deuteronomy 18:15
3. elders — Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5; teaching explanation
4. word — Hebrews 13:7
5. loosing — Matthew 16:19; teaching explanation
6. commandments / word / law — Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 12:32

Challenging

1. 18 — Exodus 18:25
2. Korah — Teaching discussion of Korah; Numbers 16
3. 16 — Matthew 16:19
4. 22 — Isaiah 22:20-22
5. Eliakim — Isaiah 22:20-22
6. mishpatim — Teaching explanation of judgments and binding/loosing

FACILITATOR DISCUSSION NOTES

Suggested responses follow the teaching. Invite discussion and personal application; these are not additional required answers.

1. The source affirms the Moses model while assigning its central role to Messiah, not a modern head pastor. It cites 1 Timothy 2:5 for one mediator and Deuteronomy 18:15 for the promised prophet. Ask how this differs from rejecting leadership altogether.

2. Hebrews 13:7 asks believers to remember leaders who spoke God's Word and consider their lives; 13:17 adds watchful responsibility. The source calls for neither blind acceptance nor automatic dismissal. Discuss how to raise a question respectfully, examine the relevant passage and remain willing to learn.

3. Exodus 18:20, 25 concerns instruction and able leaders serving groups of different sizes. The source interprets these sizes as capacity to serve under Moses rather than a warrant for a head elder. Identify that as its interpretation and ask what ability, character and shared responsibility would look like in a congregation.

4. The teaching argues that Korah's opposition to Moses does not make every question about a modern leader rebellion against God. It specifically rejects requiring a leader's permission to leave a congregation. Discuss how to distinguish a scriptural correction from a demand based only on personal authority.

5. The source reads Matthew 16:19 alongside Deuteronomy 4:1–2 and 12:32: earthly judgments must apply God's existing instruction. Isaiah 22:20–22 and Revelation 3:7 supply its key imagery. Ask how this limits leaders and why a confident claim of authority still needs a scriptural basis.

6. The concluding application is to recognize mature, qualified teachers and equip others to understand and practice the Word. The source distinguishes apostles' work of establishing assemblies from ongoing elder care. Invite the group to name one practical way to share responsibility and help another person grow.