**BCM Bible Study: October 28/29, 2020**

**Exodus 17-18: The Nations**

Amalekites: **Read Exodus 17:8-16**

* How is the battle against the Amalekites won?
* The staff in Moses’ hand and his raised hands evoke images of the parting of the Red Sea. **Read Exodus 14:16**.
  + What does this communicate about God’s protection of his people going forward?
* What are some things that are contradictory to God’s purposes? What role does the Church play with respect to these things?
* Why is it significant that God gives them decisive victory over the Amalekites, knowing that they will be a persistent enemy?
* The Christian life is often referred to as a battle. What do we learn about fighting this battle from the following verses? **Read Ephesians 6:10-12, 1 Timothy 6:11-12, James 4:1, 7-10, Romans 8:12-13.**
* What are your own “altars”? When have you seen God meet you in your time of need and deliver you? What role do our “altars” play in fighting these battles?
* What role does the altar of the empty tomb play in fighting these battles?

Jethro’s Advice: **Read Exodus 18:1-12**

See the graphic below. How does Jethro’s response compare to the Amalekites?

* **Read Exodus 6:7, 7:5.** How do you see God’s universal plan at work so far in Exodus?

What does it look like to tell others about what God has done?

* What are some hindrances to this mission? How should we respond?
* What do you think is your role in God’s mission? Have you ever sensed that God is calling you overseas?

**Read Exodus 18:13-27**

* What is Jethro’s advice to Moses?
* God could have given Moses this advice directly, but he doesn’t – he uses Jethro. Moreover, the qualifications that Jethro gives in v.21 resemble the qualifications for leaders given in Numbers 11 and Deuteronomy 1. Why is this significant?
* In what ways do you feel that you are stretching your God-given limits? How is this impacting your relationship with God and others?
* What would it look like for you to honor these God-given limits?

