

2018 Pastor Appreciation
Church of God Adult Discipleship

THE HANDS OF GOD SERMON

THEME: *The Hands of God: Joining Hands With Our Pastor
Walking, Worshipping, and Working Together*

SCRIPTURE BASIS: PASSAGE—Exodus 17:8-16

KEY SCRIPTURE—EXODUS 17:12 “...and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands,
the one on his one side and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady
until the going down of the sun.”

INTRODUCTION:

I want to share with you about the “Hands of God.” In 1 Corinthians, the Church is called by the Apostle Paul, “the Body of Christ.” We are His Body and Jesus Christ is the Head of this Body. The Body of Christ has hands—and we are these hands—you, me, and everyone else here today. Our pastor cannot do the work of our church by himself/herself. We are called to work together with our pastor—as the “Hands of God.”

1. Moses was a “hands-up” pastor. (Exodus 17:9,11)

As pastor of the people, Moses was up on the hill overseeing all the people and the challenge at hand. In Exodus 14:31 they praised Moses. In Exodus 17:2,4, the people complained to Moses. Through it all “Pastor Moses” stood as a prophet (who spoke **for** God **to** the people), a priest (who spoke **to** God **for** the people) and a leader (who led by **servicing**).

2. Joshua was a “hands-on” worker. (Exodus 17:9,10,13)

Hands-on workers in the church are not just “talkers”—they are “doers.” Joshua was trusted by Moses to pick out and lead others to fight the battle and meet the challenge.

Hands-on people:

- a. Know how to take instructions (no big egos).
- b. Are part of the vision (not the division).
- c. Can be trusted to make wise decisions.
- d. Know how to fight like Joshua in spiritual warfare (not with other Christians).

3. Aaron and Hur were “hands-under” armor-bearers. (Exodus 17:10-12)

Hands-under armorbearers (like Aaron and Hur) often use assistants or prayer intercessors who cannot do the pastor’s job for him/her, but they capably support and help their pastor to get it done.

Aaron and Hur hands-under people are believers who:

- a. Stay close (spiritually) to their “Moses” pastor by sharing their burden, lightening their load and interceding consistently for him/her.
- b. Support their pastor with a rock—(the Rock of Ages-Jesus) through prayer.
- c. Know how to work together in unity not pulling Moses’ hands down or in different directions, but keeping his hands lifted up toward God and the divine plan for the church. They want what God wants and nothing more or less!

CONCLUSION:

Who really won the battle at Rephidim in Exodus 17? The Hands-up Moses? The Hands-on Joshua? The Hands-under Aaron and Hur? **THEY ALL WON THE BATTLE** by laboring in unity with “Pastor” Moses—without selfish egos or personal agendas. Ask yourself “If every member of my church were like me—what kind of church would this church be?” Let’s join hands with our pastor and win!