

Exodus 24:14

And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Indeed Aaron and Hur are with you. If any man has a difficulty, let him go to them."

Your boss comes to you and says that he is going on vacation for a week, and that he is leaving you in charge until he gets back.

The teacher has been away for a few days because of an illness, so a substitute teacher has been brought in.

Mom and dad are going out for the night, and they leave a babysitter in charge.

A few different scenarios of when the main, head honcho is out and leaves someone else in charge. Hopefully, when the boss, teacher, or parents leaves someone in charge, the one that they chose will have the same mindset or ethics that they have. If they don't, the department could be ruined in just a week because the boss left someone who could care less or had his or her own ideas on how to run things, which are different from what the boss has.

Or the substitute teacher would teach something that was the opposite of what the teacher taught, or even incorrect teaching.

Or the babysitter would have different moral values and would let the kids do or watch something that the parents would never even think of letting their children do or watch.

But in most cases, these things don't happen, because people do their best to make sure that they chose the right person when it comes to leaving others in charge.

Think about today's devotional verse. What was going on here was that Moses was going up on Mount Sinai to meet with God. He didn't know how long he would be gone, and before he left, he had to decide who he would leave the children of Israel with while he was gone. And out of all the thousands of people (men) to choose from, he selected his older brother, Aaron to take care of those God had left in his (Moses') trust. After all, Aaron had been there from the beginning when Moses first met with Pharaoh, until they left Egypt and up until this point. I mean, who better to choose than Aaron.

Yet we soon come to find out this may not have been the best choice. Why? Because when things got tough, Aaron gave into the people instead of standing firm, and ended up making a false god (a golden calf) for them to worship instead of pointing them to the one and only true God who Moses went to talk with.

So how do we apply this to us today? I remember a few years ago, that something came up that I needed to make a decision on, and I prayed about it. As I did, I felt the Lord telling me to seek counsel about it. Fortunately, even though this was a weekday, I was going to church for a particular reason, and the two men that I highly admired and respected were there. I spoke with them both and within 5 minutes I had an answer to what I prayed about, and the best part was that it was good godly counsel. Now I could have gone to one of my non-Christian friends and

asked their advice, but as I think about the situation, I could almost hear their guidance, which probably would have been the opposite of what these two godly men gave me.

So, what has been going on in your life that you are seeking counsel from others about? Are you asking both your Christian and non-Christian friends, which we tend to do when we know what we want, but we want someone to say, “*yeah, that’s the right answer*” even though deep in our hearts we know it’s not. Because when we are seeking both, then we will probably decide on which answer we like best, even though it may not be from the Lord. Or are you seeking godly counsel only from your godly friends that you are closest to, and you know that you can trust? I say that because we must be careful on who we seek counsel from, because even though someone may be a Christian, we still need to pray about their answer and use good judgment on if this is godly counsel or just their opinion.

So we need to ask ourselves, are they offering us a golden calf as the answer, or the word of the true and living God as the answer? Even more so, we need to decide which will we choose, a false shiny answer (golden calf) or the pure word from God?

† **Psalm 37:30-31 (NLT2)** *The godly offer good counsel; they teach right from wrong. They have made God’s law their own, so they will never slip from his path.*

† **Psalm 1:1** *Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful*