

BECOMING A DIFFERENCE MAKER
No More Excuses – Part 4

ON TV: *There are two kinds of people in the world...*

ON TV: *There are two kinds of people in the world. There are those who **make interest** and there are those who **pay interest**.*

ON TV: Which one do you want to be?

ON TV: There are two kind of people in the world. There are people who make a difference and there are people who make...**Excuses**.

ON TV: Which kind of person do you want to be?

ON TV: **Excuses**

ON TV: Is it possible that we're missing out because we have walled ourselves in? Is there something on the other side of our excuses that we would benefit from?

ON TV: Is it possible that we're missing out on something because we have walled ourselves in with excuses, that we have manufactured, and have yet to move beyond?

ON TV: Most of our excuses are **fear** based.

ON TV: The excuse becomes a tyrant, a **king**.

ON TV: We run the risk of missing out on **God's plan** for us.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *"For we are God's creation..." Ephesians 2:10a*

ON TV: The thing that gives anything meaning is that it is a means to an end that's not **the thing**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *"For we are God's creation, created **in Christ Jesus**..." Ephesians 2:10a*

ON TV: We are to love other people as Jesus has loved us.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *"For we are God's creation, created in Christ Jesus to do **good works**, which God prepared **in advance** for us to do." Ephesians 2:10*

ON TV: What if God has a plan and a purpose for your life?

ON TV: Excuses are really a subtle way of refusing to take **responsibility** for our lives.

ON TV: Excuses can become a **subtle way of resisting** the will of God for our lives.

ON TV/OUTLINE: #1: We have to **IDENTIFY** the excuses we're making.

ON TV: We have to get in the habit of **listening** to our "**because**s."

ON TV: Just **write it** down.

ON TV: Thoughts disentangle themselves when they pass from our **lips to our fingertips**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: #2: We need to **INTERROGATE** our "**because**s."

ON TV: **Why?**

ON TV:

- What am I afraid of?
- Who am I afraid of?
- Am I just being lazy?
- Am I just being insecure?

ON TV/OUTLINE: #3: **RELABEL** the excuse.

ON TV: We need to say it **out loud**.

ON TV: And if I built it, and I created this wall that's not really a wall...if I built it, **I can tear it down**.

ON TV: We're not a **victim**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: #4: What do I **LOSE** if I continue to excuse?

ON TV: This is what I lose...

ON TV: The price is just **too high**.

ON TV: Regret is: "*I should have, I could have, **but I didn't**.*"

ON TV/OUTLINE: #5: **TELL** somebody.

ON TV: If we don't deal with this...if we don't **identify our excuses**, we're going to excuse our life away.

ON TV: There are just two kinds of people in the world. There are those who are **not you** and there's someone **who is you**. And only you can do what God created you to do. And you don't want to miss that.

ON TV/OUTLINE: "...Such a person is double-minded and **unstable in all they do**." James 1:8