



## Lord Send Someone Else

Adapted from “5 Excuses of Moses” series by Dennis Marquardt

So often we can find excuses to keep us from doing what we know we should. In the case of Moses being asked by God to lead His people, Moses used some excuses that we may have used ourselves. As you process this lesson allow the Holy Spirit to guide you to rid yourself of excuses.

We can come up with some bizarre excuses for our actions. Society seems to teach that the more eccentric the excuse the more likely it will be accepted for our behavior. Consider the following article:

We’ve all been there. That time your alarm mysteriously didn’t go off, you couldn’t find your keys and the train was late. But, there’s another breed of latecomers out there — those who don’t seem the least bit bothered by clocking in late for work.

According to a new CareerBuilder survey, when asked how often they come in late to work, more than 1 in 4 workers (29 percent) admitted they do it at least once a month — up from 25 percent last year — and 16 percent say it’s a weekly occurrence for them — up 3 percentage points since last year.

Most of the time when people are late, the excuses are pretty common. But other times, the story gets stranger — which can make it harder to believe. When asked about the most outrageous excuses employees have given for being late, employers shared the following:

- I forgot it wasn’t the weekend.
- I put petroleum jelly in my eyes.
- I had to watch a soccer game that was being played in Europe.
- I thought Flag Day was a legal holiday.
- My pet turtle needed to visit the exotic animal clinic.
- The wind blew the deck off my house.
- I overslept because my kids changed all the clocks in the house.
- I was cornered by a moose.
- My mother locked me in the closet.

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- The pizza I ordered was late being delivered, and I had to be home to accept/pay for it.
- The sunrise was so beautiful that I had to stop and take it in.
- My mother-in-law wouldn't stop talking.
- My dad offered to make me a grilled cheese sandwich, and I couldn't say no.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ladan Nikravan, "This Year's Most Bizarre Excuses for Being Late to Work," CareerBuilder, January 26, 2017, <http://resources.careerbuilder.com/news-research/this-year-s-most-bizarre-excuses-for-being-late-to-work-2> (accessed July 5, 2017).

## COURAGE

**C1:** Below are some common excuses for why a believer might not step up to what God is calling them to achieve. What excuses have you used (Circle all that apply)?

- I worked all night, I need to get some sleep.
- That's not my job, let the pastor do it.
- I'm not sure God is asking me to do that!
- Let me pray about it!
- Why does God need me, He's God!

Why should you launch out into what God has for you rather than offer an excuse to keep you from being the man God has called you to be?

**C2:** Read and answer or discuss the following.

**Exodus 4:13–17 (ESV)** But he said, “Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.” Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses and he said, “Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite? I know that he can speak well. Behold, he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do. He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him. And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs.”

- What excuses have you used or are using to stay right where you are?
- Moses was called to lead God's people to freedom from slavery. What has God asked you to do in freeing people from the bondages of today's life?



- How do you find the courage in Christ to move forward in your walk as a man rather than finding other excuses?

## STRENGTH

**S1:** God's plan to free His people from slavery was accomplished. It took 400 years for God to strengthen and multiply His people to where they were strong enough to face the journey that laid before them. God will strengthen and multiply you with other men to accomplish His will for your life, we just need to stop making excuses. One of the best ways to do that is to take the time to think before we speak, to pray before we answer, to seek God through His Word, and seek the Holy Spirit. When we do these things, our excuses will turn into reasons to live for Christ.

- Write out something God has asked you to do.
- Now, spend thirty days praying over God's request.
- What is God speaking to you?

**S2:** Read and answer or discuss the following.

### **Exodus 4:13–17 (ESV)**

- Excuses keep you from becoming stronger in Christ. How does removing the excuses bring you closer to Christ?
- Being honest with the excuses you use with other men can help you find strength in Christ and each other. What excuse are you using to keep from being honest with God and other men?
- Moses suffered the anger of the Lord in verse 14. As a result, what did God do?

## ENDURANCE

**E1:** God's plan to free His people from slavery was accomplished. It took 400 years for God to strengthen and multiply His people to where they were strong enough to face the journey that laid before them. God will strengthen and multiply you with other men to accomplish His will for your life, we just need to stop making excuses. One of the best ways to do that is to take the time to think before we speak, to pray before we answer, to seek God through His Word, and seek the Holy Spirit. When we do these things, our excuses will turn into reasons to live for Christ.

- If you were to do a self-evaluation of the excuses you have used or are using, how would you rate? On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being the highest, with five being the least amount, how do you rate your Christian walk as a mature believer?
- Write out a sixty-day improvement plan for your Christian walk.

**E2:** Read and answer or discuss the following.

### **Exodus 4:13–17 (ESV)**

- How can you focus more on God and His Word to help you from using excuses in loving your family, your wife, your pastor and the church?
- How can being truthful and not using an excuse, help you in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ?
- Focusing on the power of the Holy Spirit, how can you encourage other men with the truth rather than an excuse in living for Christ?