**What’s Your Excuse?**

**(Exodus 3:10-4:17)**

**Moses expresses concerns about the task God is calling him to do, but these are little more than excuses. These excuses show a lack of faith, and result in God’s anger toward him. Let’s ask God to show us excuses we may be using as we consider the excuses of…**

 **I. Who Am I? (3:10-12)**

 **II. Who Are You? (3:13-22)**

 **III. What if They Don’t Believe Me? (4:1-9)**

 **IV. I Am Not Eloquent! (4:10-12)**

 **V. Send Someone Else! (4:13-17)**

**What’s Your Excuse?**

**(Exodus 3:10-4:17)**

**Small Group Discussion Guide**

**1. Read and discuss Exodus 3:10-12. Why do Christians underestimate what God can do in us and through us? What difference does God’s**

 **promise, “I will be with thee,” make in your life?**

**2. Read and discuss Exodus 3:13-22. What does God’s name, “I Am That**

 **I Am,” tell us about God’s character? How should the reality of this**

 **name encourage and bless us? Jesus claimed this name for himself in**

 **John 8:58. What does this tell us about Jesus?**

**3. Read and discuss Exodus 4:1-9. What are some of the “what-if’s” that**

 **can keep us from doing God’s work? What “proofs” did God give Moses**

 **so people would believe him? What proofs do we have?**

**4. Read and discuss Exodus 4:10-12. How can we gain confidence to**

 **overcome the fear of not knowing what to say or how to say it when**

 **we are witnessing for the Lord? (Consider Matthew 10:18-20; 32-33;**

 **Acts 1:8; 1 Peter 3:15)**

**5. Read and discuss Exodus 4:13-17. Should we consider whether**

 **someone else might be better for a job that needs to be done for the**

 **Lord? Why or why not? Consider 1 Corinthians 1:26-29; 15:9-11;**

 **1 Thessalonians 5:24.**

**Digging Deeper**

**1. Review the “I AM” (eternal) aspect of Christ’s character as cited in John**

 **8:58, Hebrews 13:8 and Revelation 1:4, 8; 4:8. How are we benefitted**

 **by the fact that our God does not change? Consider Numbers 23:19;**

 **Psalm 102:25-28; Malachi 3:6; and James 1:17.**

**2. God bolsters Moses’ confidence with the words “I WILL BE WITH THEE.”**

 **What difference does God’s presence make in the following verses?**

 **Genesis 28:15; Isaiah 41:10; Psalm 23:4; 46:7, 11; 73:23; Jeremiah 1:8,**

 **19; 30:11; Matthew 1:23; 18:20; 28:20; Acts 18:20.**

**3. For next week, consider the temptations to compromise that Moses**

 **faced as he encountered Pharaoh in Exodus 8:25-30; 10:8-11, 24-27.**

 **What can we learn from these encounters?**