

**People are capable of the most \_\_\_\_\_ excuses when doing what they should not be doing.**

“Moses said to Aaron, “What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?” So Aaron said, “Do not let the anger of my lord become hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. “For they said to me, ‘Make us gods that shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ “And I said to them, ‘Whoever has any gold, let them break it off.’ So they gave it to me, and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.”” Exodus 32:21-24. **Wow! But in our own way, we are all guilty of idolatry!**

- “Put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and **covetousness**, which is **idolatry**. Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.” Col 3:5-7
- **Jesus knows about excuses.** He said to another, “Follow Me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God.” And another also said, “Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house.” But Jesus said to him, “No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”” Luke 9:57-62.

**Jesus taught a parable about putting an end to excuses and \_\_\_\_\_ His invitation to follow Him.**

“(Jesus) said to him, “A certain man gave a great supper and invited many, “and sent his servant at supper time to say to those who were invited, ‘Come, for all things are now ready.’ “**But they all with one accord began to make excuses.** The first said to him, ‘I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused.’ “And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to test them. I ask you to have me excused.’ “Still another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ “So that servant came and reported these things to his master. ...”” Luke 14:15-21.

- God wants us to make **Him** a priority. **BUT**, instead, we make excuses.
- Today, I want to encourage all to get rid of excuses and commit to being faithful to God.

In Ex 3, God summons Moses with a call to serve Him. Did Moses respond with bold faith and valiant courage? **No! He responded with excuses.**

**Moses’ excuse was, “I’m not \_\_\_\_\_” BUT God’s response was “I will certainly be with you”.**

Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?” So He said, “I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.” Ex 3:11,12

- Our competency comes from God first. When Moses was in Egypt, he wanted to be the deliverer of His people, now he’s not sure. God wants us to lose the pride & rely on Him and His resources.
- “Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.” 2 Corinthians 3:5,6.

**Moses’ excuse: “I don’t \_\_\_\_\_ enough” BUT God’s response: “I Am That I Am”!**

“Then Moses said to God, “Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they say to me, ‘What is His name?’ what shall I say to them?” And God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”” Exodus 3:13,14.

- Moses was afraid he would be asked questions he could not answer. What was God’s answer?
- Understand, it’s not about how much you know, it’s about who He is, and what He will do!

**Moses’ excuse: “I’m not \_\_\_\_\_, send someone else” BUT God’s response: “Go, I will teach you!”**

“Then Moses said to the LORD, “O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.” So the LORD said to him, “Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD? “Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say.” But he said, “O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send.”” Exodus 4:10-13.

- Moses wanted to turn away from God’s plan by declaring that God didn’t equip him for the job.
- But God says, “I have unlimited power over all of the people of the world and their senses—I can give them and I can take them away.”
- “If God is for us, who can be against us?” Romans 8:31
- **Today, let’s lose the excuses and answer the call of God in our lives.**