

THE SIMPLEST WAY TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Ron Baum · 4/2/2023 · Exodus 3 & 4, Luke 14:15-24, John 17:18

We end our series today, examining if we make EXCUSES (or have REASONS) why we will NOT accept the challenge:

3-week church-wide challenge to:

- 1) Learn a new neighbors name
- 2) Invite them over for coffee or a meal

Afterwards, let us know how it went by texting “NEIGHBOR” to 951-425-4425.

Download all the resources you saw today at www.go2cornerstone.com/neighbor

Some of the **OLDEST EXCUSES** in the book.

(Exodus 3:11-12) ¹¹ But Moses protested to God, “Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?”

¹² God answered, “I will be with you.

Excuse #1 **I am INCAPABLE.**

(Exodus 3:13, 15) ¹³ But Moses protested, “If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ they will ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what should I tell them?” ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: Yahweh, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.

Excuse #2 **I am IGNORANT.**

(Exodus 4:1) ¹ Moses objected, “They won’t trust me. They won’t listen to a word I say. They’re going to say, ‘God? Appear to him? Hardly!’ ”

Excuse #3 **I am INADEQUATE.**

(Exodus 4:10) ¹⁰ But Moses pleaded with the Lord, “O Lord, I’m not very good with words. I never have been, and I’m not now, even though you have spoken to me. I get tongue-tied, and my words get tangled.”

Excuse #4 **I am INARTICULATE.**

(Exodus 4:13) ¹³ But Moses again pleaded, “Lord, please! Send anyone else.”

Excuse #5 **I am INSUBORDINATE.**

Some of the **NEWEST EXCUSES** in the book.

(Luke 14:15-24) ¹⁵ a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, “What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!” ¹⁶ Jesus replied with this story: “A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. ¹⁷ When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, ‘Come, the banquet is ready.’ ¹⁸ But they all began making excuses. One said, ‘I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.’ ¹⁹ Another said, ‘I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.’ ²⁰ Another said, ‘I now have a wife, so I can’t come.’ ²¹ “The servant returned and told his master what they had said.

His master was furious and said, 'Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' ²² After the servant had done this, he reported, 'There is still room for more.'²³ So his master said, 'Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full. ²⁴ For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.'"

Excuse #1 **NEW STUFF**

Do I allow POSSESSIONS to interfere with my assignment from God?

Excuse #2 **WORK STUFF**

Do I allow BUSINESS to crowd the claims of Christ?

Excuse #3 **RELATIONSHIP STUFF**

Do I allow RELATIONSHIPS to take the place of my mission?

IF GOOD THINGS KEEP YOU FROM ENJOYING THE BEST THINGS, THEY CAN BECOME BAD THINGS.

The **SIMPLEST** way to **CHANGE THE WORLD!** Can seem **OVERWHELMING** in today's world.

You say, "I can't change the whole world!"

Yes, you can, you can change the whole world, for **ONE** person.

***(John 17:18)** "Jesus said, 'In the same way that You gave Me a mission in the world I give them a mission in the world.'*

Who is your ONE?

God chooses to use ordinary people, like you and me, (with excuses, weaknesses, and failures) to change a world ONE life at a time.

***(Matthew 5:14)** ¹⁴You are the light of the world--like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. ¹⁵Don't hide your light under a basket! Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all. ¹⁶In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.*

***(Mark 16:15)** "Jesus said to His followers, 'Go everywhere in the world, and tell the good news to everyone.'"*

QUESTION: Are you a follower of Jesus Christ? Then God expects you to tell the good news.

**Who is on your Hope for Heaven list? Why are you NOT fulfilling your GOD ASSIGNMENT?
What is your EXCUSE or REASON?**

Keep it SIMPLE:

GOOD FRIDAY – Friday, April 7th 5:00pm

EASTER- Sunday, April 9th 7:40, 9:00, 10:20, 11:40 (Classic 9:00, Español 11:40)