

Bible Study 3 – Divine empowerment & human responsibility– Ex. 4:1-17

I am not very good at starting or carrying on conversations with my neighbours. Yet it seems to me that we Christians ought not to contribute to the fragmentation and isolation of our society by living in the midst of virtual strangers. I think we need to work on three things: 1) Initiating creative ways to be together now and then with our neighbours; 2) When there is a spontaneous opportunity to chat, don't avoid them, but pursue conversation; 3) Dare to blow their minds with something besides the weather, sport, politics, or your new project. We must venture to speak of Jesus. But we are not very good at it. We feel very much like Moses many times.

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| The context | Joseph was sold as a slave in Egypt, but he became the second in charge of Egypt and helped the nation survive a 7-year famine. During the famine his father's family moved to Egypt. Joseph died in Egypt and later a new Pharaoh used the Israelites as slaves. Moses was preserved miraculously as a baby and tried to help his people, but he had to flee to Midian for his life. Then God appeared to Moses in flames of fire from a bush and sent him to Pharaoh to bring the Israelites out of Egypt. |
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PART 1 Read & write each section in your own words – Exodus 4:1-17, 27-31

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| Third excuse (v.1-9) | |
| Fourth excuse (v.10-12) | |
| Fifth Excuse (v.13-17) | |
| In Egypt (v.27-31) | |

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What does it teach about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit?

2. What does it teach about people?



3. Summarize a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what is the main point being taught in these passages?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. God asked Moses, “What is that in your hand?” (v.2). His shepherd’s staff reminded him of his current situation and his past. The things we hold on to can be good or bad. And they can identify us and control our lives. Whatever we live for controls our lives. But what does the Bible say should control our lives (Galatians 2:20; Romans 12:1-2)?

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

Moses was reluctant to obey God. He had many excuses. God asked him to use what he had (the shepherd’s staff). God also promised to help him speak and Aaron would be his spokesman. God never asks us to do anything without giving us the power to do it.



Obey

Since God's word is true, what must I change in my life to obey God?
What must I do to obey?

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| I will |
| I will |
| I will |

Questions to help me apply this study to myself

- Is there a *SIN* for me to avoid?
- Is there a *PROMISE* from God for me to claim?
- Is there an *EXAMPLE* for me to follow?
- Is there a *COMMANDMENT* or *MODEL* for me to follow?

Share

| Who will I tell about this Bible passage? |
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Who needs help? What can we do to help over the next two weeks?

| Person | How will I help them? |
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Prayer

Date:

One thing you are thankful for.

One thing that's bothering you or causing stress.

Is there anything this group can do to help you?

| Person | Prayer points |
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