



Who Should I Say Sent Me

Adapted from "4 Excuses of Moses" series by Dennis Marquardt

Most men want to be liked. There is a tension when not everyone likes us. It has been said that you cannot please all the people. While that is true, fear often keeps us from speaking up. The following article offers an example as to why men might not speak the truth to those in authority.

What is it that prevents us from speaking truth to those in power: Fear of punishment? Fear of attack? Fear of being noticed? There are many reasons we don't deal in the truth, but great teams, whether a small company leadership, a public company board, or a political team, learn to speak and deal in the truth.

Knowing the truth about whatever situation you are in, or the problem you are solving, is absolutely critical, and yet so often people can't overcome their own barriers to tell those above them the honest truth.

"He won't like it"--Some people don't like to hear bad news. They would rather you wrap everything in the positive, especially if they are conflict averse. You need to be aware of your audience's personality to figure out how to deliver a tough message, but don't be fearful. Fear will only prevent you from getting to the real problems and finding solutions. People don't get fired or shut out for telling the truth. If you are constructive and are doing a quality job, you will not be fired for expressing your opinion on a situation (and if you do, go and work for a better leader). Good leaders want to hear the truth, even if it's painful to hear. So, speak up! Have confidence in yourself and don't worry about whether the power player you are speaking with will "like" your message.¹

It appears Moses was not excited to share with Pharaoh what God had asked him to share. Moses tried several excuses when God asked him to confront Pharaoh. There will be times in a man's life, when you will be asked who sent you.

¹ Penny Herscher, "5 Reasons You Don't Speak Truth to Those in Power & How to Change That," Inc., August 13, 2015, <https://www.inc.com/penny-herscher/5-reasons-you-don-t-speak-truth-to-those-in-power-amp-how-to-change-that.html> (accessed August 2, 2017).

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COURAGE

C1: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:13–15 (ESV) Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

- Moses tried several excuses to get out of his assignment. He tried, “Who am I?” as well as, “Who should I say sent me?”
- What are some of the excuses you use with God?
- Have you ever tried to hide from God? Have you used the same excuses as Moses?
- On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being very authentic and 4 not too authentic, rate yourself on how authentic you live your life. Write out a plan to improve.
- Do an internet search on Egyptian gods. After reading the list of gods that Egypt had, what gods do you see in the world today?
- Write out your understanding of Jehovah God as the only one and true God.

- How can you stand firm against having no other gods before Him?

C2: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:16–17 (ESV) “Go and gather the elders of Israel together and say to them, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, has appeared to me, saying, “I have observed you and what has been done to you in Egypt, and I promise that I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, a land flowing with milk and honey.’””

- How do you find courage in knowing that God is the God of the past and the present?
- How would you feel if God sent you in place of Moses?
- What does the term “divine revelation” mean to you? Have you ever experienced a “divine revelation” in your life?
- How does knowing that God heard the cries of His People help you in the struggles you face as a man?
- How can you share the love of the great I Am with others?

C3: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:18–22 (ESV) “And they will listen to your voice, and you and the elders of Israel shall go to the king of Egypt and say to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us; and now, please let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.’ But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless compelled by a mighty hand. So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all the wonders that I will do in it; after that he will let you go. And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and when you go, you shall not go empty, but each woman shall ask of her neighbor, and any woman who lives in her house, for silver and gold jewelry, and for clothing. You shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians.”

- God told Moses His plan to free the Hebrews from Egypt. How do you find the courage in God to be free from the things that enslave you?
- How does knowing God’s plan for freedom help you share with those who are in bondage?
- Is a miraculous event needed in order to believe that God will set you free from those things that hold you captive?
- 400 years of slavery seemed like God was not listening their pleas, but His plan to strengthen and multiply them was in place. How do you see times of waiting as God’s plan in action?
- Where do you find the courage to stay strong in Him during your battles?
- Having the courage to believe that God still delivers is an important belief. How can you share that with other men?

STRENGTH

S1: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:13–15 (ESV)

- When you read the phrase “the God of our fathers,” what comes to your mind?
- Describe the relationship your father had with God? What did you learn from your father’s relationship with God?
- How can you use your knowledge about God to share a personal knowledge of God?
- You may not serve a god like the Egyptians did, however, worshipping something other than Jehovah God is just as real today. Write down what gods you have in your life that need to be removed in order to worship the One True God?
- What does it mean to you to hear God tell Moses that His Name is “I AM WHO I AM”?

S2: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:16–17 (ESV)

- How has God shown His strength in your life?

- Do you find strength in knowing the God of the past is present in your daily struggles? How?
- How do you share the strength of God to others who may be facing difficult situations?

S3: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:18–22 (ESV)

- When called to battle, do you find the strength that God's plan is in control or do you try to do it all alone?
- Describe a time when you were in the midst of the storm. Where was the calmest place for you?
- God was still at work during the 400 years the Israelites were in slavery to the Egyptians. How can you use this knowledge to help you find strength to go through the struggles of manhood?
- Do you believe that God can perform miracles through you? Describe a miracle that has occurred in your life.

ENDURANCE

E1: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:13–15 (ESV)

- How can you focus on God rather than excuses like “who am I?” or “who should I say sent me?”
- How can focusing on the knowledge you have about God lead to a more personal relationship with Him?
- On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being very well and 4 being not very well, rate yourself on how well you focus on God in the midst of your storm. Write out a plan to improve.
- How does knowing God, help you in your focus on the Great Commission of sharing Christ?
- How did the relationship your father had with God influence your relationship with God?

E2: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:16–17 (ESV)

- How can you focus on God rather than the misguiding's of people today?

- How can you focus more on the God of the present than the God of the past? Is there a difference?
- Moses used the excuse of not knowing who God was. How can you focus on learning more about who God is? Write out a plan to improve your focus.

E3: Read and answer or discuss the following questions.

Exodus 3:18–22 (ESV)

- There are many things in this world that will try to pull your focus off God. How do you stay focused on God when facing temptations like sexual immorality?
- The world focuses on self. How can you take the focus off yourself and turn the focus towards God?
- How can you learn to focus on the present rather than seeking something you think may be better?
- What is God speaking to you about sharing Jesus Christ with others?