**CONFRONTING COMMON EXCUSES**

**LESSON 5 – SEPTEMBER 21, 2025**

I Can’t Do It. (Lack Talent/Ability)

**Key Verse(s):** Exodus 3:11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? 4:10 And Moses said unto the Lord, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

A logo of a book

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**Summary of the Biblical Event**

While Moses was keeping sheep for his father-in-law in the desert, the Lord appeared to him through a burning bush. God wanted Moses to know that He had chosen him to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt. Moses struggled to accept God’s plan for him. He clearly did not believe that he was the right man for the job. His first thought was that he was a nobody. Why would God choose him out of everybody to handle such a big job? His second thought was that nobody would ever believe that God had appeared to him. After all, he was struggling to believe it himself. His last thought was that he just couldn’t do the job. He was lacking in talent or ability. He was not a public speaker. His excuses brought about the anger of the Lord, but Moses still refused to acknowledge that he did in fact have the ability to do what God had called him to do. Thankfully, the Lord still used Moses to lead Israel.



 **Examining the Motives Exposing the Flaws**

* We cannot fail when we are following the calling of God.
* Every ability we have comes from the God Who created us.
* True humility should not lead us to question God’s plan.
* When God gives an answer, we should accept it.
* Doubt always leads us to a position of insecurity.
* He was clearly motivated by the fear of personal failure.
* He overemphasized his own ability instead of God’s ability.
* He was being led by a genuine but misguided form of humility.
* He was worried about an issue that did not even matter.
* He was responding from a position of doubt.

**Effects of the Excuse**

**1. It disguises our reluctance to take action as reasonable hesitation.**

**Proverbs 26:13** — The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets. **Luke 14:20** - And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.

**2. It provides us with the easiest excuse to cover any unbelief or disobedience.**

**Ecclesiastes 11:4** — He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.

**3. It discourages others from stepping out in faith to do what the Lord calls us to do.**

**Numbers 13:31** — But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.

**4. It often leads to the Lord calling someone else to do the task we are called to do.**

**Exodus 4:14** — And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.



PERSONAL APPLICATION

**Memory Verse:** Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

**Reflective Questions:**

* Do I ever say “I can’t” when I really mean “I won’t” or “I don’t want to”?
* Do I have a particular weakness that I use as an excuse to avoid any call to action?

**Commitment:**

* I will not let my insecurity or doubt keep me from doing what God commands me to do.
* I will be honest and avoid using the phrase “I can’t” as a general answer to problems.

What would have happened if Moses had continued to find reasons to resist?

Do you think Moses’ exit from Egypt played a part in his “I Can’t” attitude?

What does God’s anger show us about His view of this excuse?

Why did Moses accept God’s sending of Aaron but refused God’s initial answer to Moses about his speech?

What is the difference between Exodus 4 and Numbers 11 attitude from Moses? might seem to have little impact?