



Life Group Sermon Study

## God Enhances the Ordinary

April 15, 2018



# ENGAGE

Break the Ice: (The purpose of these first questions is to help your group open up. Please don't feel like you have to ask each question. You may even have a better question. Once you feel that the group is engaged, move on to the "Inspire" section.)

- On a scale of 1 to 10: Do you like to stay with what you're used too (1), or go with something new (10)? Are you more inclined to make excuses to avoid getting involved (1) or volunteer for everything (10)?
- What did God teach you during the message this weekend? Did anything in particular stand out?

Prayer: Take some time to pray for God's Spirit to speak to your group through His Word.

# INSPIRE

(Since the group may need time to process each question, don't let silence scare you. Try to avoid filling the space with unnecessary explanation or moving on from the question too quickly.)

[Leaders: It would be helpful if each group member had a copy of this guide to reference.]

Read Exodus 3:1-15; 4:1-17.

Moses gave five excuses on why he could not fulfill what God was calling him to do.

#1 Who am I? (3:11) — This excuse is based on identity or self-image.

The Lie = I am not important. I am insignificant. I am a nobody.

God's Reply = "I will be with you." (3:12)

#2 What will I say? (3:13) — This excuse is based on feelings of inadequacy.

The Lie = I don't know what I'm doing. I am not capable or qualified. I am inadequate.

God's Reply = "I AM WHO I AM." (3:14)

#3 What if...? (4:1) — This excuse is based on fear and uncertainty.

The Lie = It's not going to work. I will mess things up. I don't know what others will think.

God's Reply = Miraculous signs and wonders (4:2-7)

#4 I can't. (4:10) — This excuse is based on insecurity.

The Lie = I'm not good enough. I don't have the skills. I'm not the right person for the job.

God's Reply = "I will help you speak." (4:12)

#5 Send someone else. (4:13) — This is not an excuse. This is giving up.

The Lie = I am not cut out for this. I can't change.

God's Reply = I will send someone to help you. (4:14-17)

1. God got Moses' attention with a burning bush. What would God have to do to get your attention and commitment to take on a new mission in life? What would be your excuses?



2. What do Moses' excuses sound like to you: False issues? Legitimate ones? True humility? Stubborn resistance?
3. Do you think Moses is more uncertain of himself or God? Why? What about you? What concerns do you still have about doing God's will or following his lead?
4. The big idea of Sunday's message was that **God delights in using ordinary people to do extraordinary things for his glory**. It's a great soundbite, but do we really believe it to be true for us?

## EQUIP

(These questions will challenge your group members to apply the study to their daily lives. It is highly important that you go over this section with your group each week for the group study to be a success. Set aside 15-20 minutes at the end of your study to go over this section.)

Phil pointed out in his message that God often took time to prepare people before he used them for his purpose and glory. God sent Moses to Midian for 40 years before he called him to deliver His people. Elijah was told to live in a ravine and then at a poor widow's house for at least 3 years before he confronted the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel. Paul was sent to Arabia for 14 years before he began his missionary endeavors.

Can you think of a time in your life (perhaps that time is now) where God was preparing you to be used for his purpose? In what ways did you or do you need to "trust the process"?

When it comes to serving the Lord, what do you need to do to focus less on the size of the challenge or more on the power and ability of God in your life?

Equip Your Mind:

"Now we have this treasure in clay jars, so that this extraordinary power may be from God and not from us." ~ 2 Corinthians 4:7 (CSB)