

Discussion Guide and Study Notes

April 7th, 2013

Please use this guide in your Life Group discussion to help glean the most from our Sunday morning teaching. These notes are also excellent for your personal study and growth.

Till [Get the soil ready]

- What are some of the worse excuses you've ever heard for anything (missing school, missing work, etc.)?
- Here are some actual missing work excuses: I was sprayed by a skunk. I tripped over my dog and was knocked unconscious. My bus broke down and was held up by robbers. I was arrested as a result of mistaken identity. I forgot to come back to work after lunch. I couldn't find my shoes. I hurt myself bowling. I was spit on by a venomous snake. I totaled my wife's jeep in a collision with a cow. A hitman was looking for me. My curlers burned my hair, and I had to go to the hairdresser. I eloped. My brain went to sleep, and I couldn't wake it up. My cat unplugged my alarm clock. I had to be there for my husband's grand jury trial. I had to ship my grandmother's bones to India. (note: she passed away 20 years ago). I forgot what day of the week it was. Someone slipped drugs in my drink last night. A tree fell on my car. My monkey died.
- What kinds of excuses do people give God to avoid any of his commands? Do you have examples?

Sow [What God wants us to hear]

- Moses is not the only one who had excuses or objections to God's call. What did these other servants of God say OR do that showed they resisted his call?
- Gideon, Judges 6:11-16
- King Saul, 1 Samuel 10:20-22
- Jeremiah, Jer. 1:4-8
- Isaiah, Is. 6:8-11
- Ananias, Acts 9:10-19



Tend [Working the truth into our hearts]

- What help did Moses have from...
 - o ...God?
 - o ...Family?
 - o ...Community?
- So, is it safe to say that Moses did not have to go it alone?

Harvest [Where the fruit is seen]

- It's not just in the area of calling, but Christ followers can make excuses too when it comes from direction from God.
- If we have the same help Moses did, what excuses do we have left?
- Can you recall a time when you read a command or knew you had to do something and you made an excuse to God instead? For example, many believers explain the need to obey God regarding baptism but they make an excuse to avoid it.
- Is excuse making the same as disobedience? Why or why not?
- Repent if need be! Record your action steps in your journal to remove excuses and start obeying.

Preview: Did the plagues on Egypt mock their gods? Do some research in commentaries or internet before next Sunday.

