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Week 9: No More Excuses (Grace to Obey)

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## INTRODUCTION:

Exodus 1-4

## GOD MEETS US IN OUR...

1) Feelings of \_\_\_\_\_ (3:11-12)

“But I’m just a nobody...”

2) Feelings of \_\_\_\_\_ (3:13-22)

“But I don’t know enough...”

3) Feelings of \_\_\_\_\_ (4:1-9)

“But the professionals won’t believe me...”

4) Feelings of \_\_\_\_\_ (4:10-12)

“But I’m not the best communicator...”

5) Feelings of \_\_\_\_\_ (4:13-17)

“But I don’t want to...”

## THE BIG IDEA:

God is far less concerned with your ability than He is with your availability. He specializes in using the foolish to humble the wise, the weak to humble the strong, the lowly, despised things and the things that are not to nullify the things that are. Therefore, let’s boast in the Lord together of His grace! (1 Corinthians 1:26-31).

## QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION

### Personal Life:

1. In our journey through His Story so far, how has your own journey been impacted with a new understanding or appreciation of God's character? (His love, mercy, grace, holiness, power, etc.)
2. Can you think of a time when you felt as though God were "calling" you to some task or opportunity – and like Moses, you decided to make excuses for why you would not step out in faith? Explain...

### Ponderings:

3. Think through the three stages of Moses life: 1) becoming a "somebody", 2) becoming a "nobody" and 3) becoming a "builder of God's Body." If you were to categorize yourself using those concepts, where are you at right now in your life? How has God uniquely called you to participate in building up His Body? Explain...
4. Many great leaders admit that they had to undergo some incredibly humbling experiences as they developed. Why is suffering such an indispensable part of leadership and character development?
5. After summarizing the story of Moses and various other famous OT people of faith, the author of Hebrews says,

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses (Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Rahab, David, etc.) let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." (Hebrews 12:1)*

Thinking back through the five excuses/attitudes Moses struggled with, which one "hinders" you the most? Explain...

6. Read Hebrews 12:2-3 as a group. "Fix our eyes" means to "focus our gaze." "Consider" means to "ponder deeply." Why are these so key to our running the race with endurance? Be specific...
7. When we "focus our gaze" and "ponder deeply" the sufficiency of Christ's work on our behalf, what effect can this have on our joy? Our obedience? Our ability to face challenges? Our general outlook on life?

### Promptings:

8. If you feel comfortable, share about one area of your life in which you feel like God is asking you to step out in greater faith (could be a ministry opportunity, a relationship that needs attention, a career move, etc.). Close in prayer for one another in these areas – for victory over fear and the ability to walk by faith in the grace and truth of Jesus.