

Exodus 4:10 (MSG)

Moses raised another objection to GOD: "Master, please, I don't talk well. I've never been good with words, neither before nor after you spoke to me. I stutter and stammer."

When we think about Moses, what are some of the first things we think about?

The Ten Commandments

The parting of the Red Sea

Leading the Children of Israel through the desert for forty years

The Ark of the Covenant

I'm sure we could think of more things. But now, what is one thing that we usually don't think about Moses? (hint: it's in today's verse)

If you said the way Moses talked and that he would "***stutter and stammer***" then Ding, Ding, ding, ding, you win a prize... well not really.

But think about that for a moment. Here, God is talking to Moses, as God has chosen Moses to lead the Children of Israel out of Egypt to the Promised Land. Remember, this was not Moses' idea, but rather God's decision on how He would do it. It wasn't like Moses said, "*Hey, God. You know I had to escape from Pharaoh out of Egypt, because he was going to kill me. It's been forty years now and I bet he is dead. So how about sending me back there so I can bring Israel to the Promised Land. What do you think God?*"

No, it was nothing like that, if you think about it, Moses was just living life, doing his job for forty years, minding his own business, when God appears to Moses in his workplace (so to speak) in the form of a burning bush that was not consumed but rather kept burning. Simply, God approached Moses with His plan for the Children of Israel, and since He is God, you would think He already knew Moses stuttered and considered that when He chose Moses. So, the only one it really bothered was Moses.

When Moses went to the Children of Israel and told them what God said, we never read of anyone saying, "*You got to be kidding us Moses, you expect Pharaoh to listen to you with all that stuttering and stammering?*"

Even when Moses went to Pharaoh, he never said to Moses, as he was laughing at the way Moses stuttered, "*Moses, you would make a great jester in my court with the way you talk, but how can you expect me to take you seriously with all that stuttering and stammering? Guards, get this court jester out of my sight.*"

But once again, he never said that, and even when I first asked the question of what we think about when we think of Moses. Probably none of us first thought about the way Moses talked.

So, let me ask you, what self-imposed obstacles are you putting in your own way, that you are allowing it to prevent you from doing what you know God has called you to do?

Let me use myself as another example. When I first started teaching the bible over 25 years ago. I felt God calling me to do so, starting with a simple home bible study. Now for me, I was thirty something, and an uneducated man, and not even having a High School diploma and dropped out of High School. I mean, wouldn't that be a good enough excuse not to teach, especially online where I have to publish my teachings in writing. But here it is, over 25 years later and in that time, I have taught several books of the bible (Genesis, John, James, Revelation) and written, over 2,000 devotionals in that time that people can still go back and read even now. But if I allowed my inabilities to be an obstacle, I never would have done it, and you would not even be learning more about the bible right now with these daily devotionals.

But the reason I didn't use my self-imposed obstacles as an excuse not to do what God called me to do, was because God called me to do it, and that was all I needed. I like what Pastor Chuck Smith used to always say, "*Where God Guides, God Provides*" and if God called me, I had faith that He would provide me the ability to do it.

So let me ask you again, what excuse are you giving to God why you can't do what He has called you to do, and even more so, is that excuse greater your God?

- † **1 Chronicles 28:20** *And David said to his son Solomon, "Be strong and of good courage, and do it; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD God--my God--will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.*
- † **Philippians 1:6 (NLT2)** *And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.*
- † **2 Corinthians 6:1 (MSG)** *Companions as we are in this work with you, we beg you, please don't squander one bit of this marvelous life God has given us.*
- † **2 Timothy 4:5 (NLT2)** *But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you.*