

Exodus 4:10

Then Moses said to the LORD, "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."

Moses is an 80-year-old man in today's devotional, and for 80 years, he had walked the earth, 40 years in Egypt

† **Acts 7:23-24** *Now when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel. And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended and avenged him who was oppressed, and struck down the Egyptian.*

And forty years in the desert:

† **Acts 7:30** *And when forty years had passed, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush, in the wilderness of Mount Sinai.*

And for eighty years, Moses probably had people make fun of him because of his speech impediment (Likely he stuttered and spoke really slow because of it). So for eighty years he was self-conscious of the way he talked. After all, he didn't talk like everyone else did, and I could imagine that everyone else made sure he knew that.

Growing up as a kid, the other Egyptian kids would probably make fun of him, because of the way he talked, but also because he wasn't Egyptian like they were. Growing up in the household of Pharaoh, could you imagine how others (Royalty and those in the political realm) would look at him, and find it hard to take him seriously because of the way he talked even as an adult. Even after he left Egypt and lived among the other shepherds and would see people traveling, how many (maybe not to his face) made fun of him, and he could tell just by looking at them that they couldn't take him seriously as well. I know it sounds cruel, but isn't that the way the world is? Even over 3,000 years ago, times have not changed.

So now, the Almighty, Awesome God comes to you and gives you a new job, and that job's main function is to speak in front of others, and not just speak, but to speak Pharaoh, the head honcho of Egypt. And we have Moses' response in today's devotional verse, *"O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."*

Some think this was an excuse that Moses was giving God. But I don't think it was. I think after 80 years of being made fun of and not taken seriously because of the way he talked, Moses had a valid case. But that's what I think, but not what God thinks, and we know that by God's response to Moses.

† Exodus 4:11-12 *So the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD? Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."*

I love God's response of "*Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD?*" Because God already knew about Moses' speech impediment and get this (This is very important). Even though God knew that Moses stuttered, and talked slow, God NEVER mentioned it nor saw it as a problem. If He did, He would have said to Moses. Okay Moses, I know you have this speech problem, but I am going to heal you of it right here and now, and after I do, then I'll send you to Pharaoh to talk to him.

You see, man saw it as a problem, but God didn't, and if you read the entire bible, I never ever read where God healed Moses of his speech impediment. Why, because to God, it wasn't an issue, He was fine with how Moses talked, after all, God created Moses to talk that way. Let me say that again and let it sink in, "**God created Moses to talk that way**"

Yet we get so hung up with our imperfections, yet we seem to forget that God created us the way we are, and when God calls us, He rarely removes (what we call) our imperfections, because to God, our so-called imperfection is not an imperfection to Him. It actually separates you from others, making you more special in God's eyes, and He gets all the glory for how He is using you, imperfections and all!

So don't use your man labeled imperfection as an excuse to the God Who created you just the way He wanted to, and He will use you, imperfections and all, because He is doing the work through you, and without Him, you couldn't do it anyway, even without the so-called imperfection.

† John 15:5 (NLT2) *Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.*
(underlined for emphasis)