

EXODUS 4

I HAVE SEEN THEIR SUFFERING

BIBLE STUDY

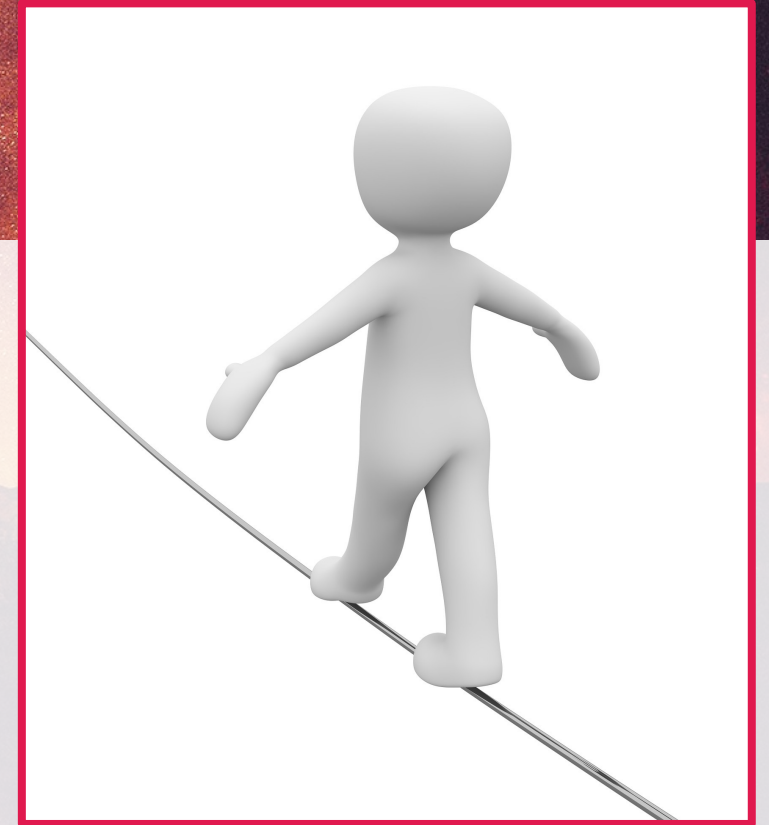


STARTER:

Can you think of a time when God asked you to do something that you found incredibly nerve-wracking, but which ultimately you managed to do?

Read Exodus 4 : 1-17

- Look back at **chapter 3 : 11-15**. What were Moses' first two objections to what God had asked him to do, and how did God answer them?
- Think back to the times when God has asked us to do things we've found hard. How could we testify that God has been 'with us' (as in 3:12) in these situations?
- What is Moses' third excuse (4 : 1)?
- The signs that God gives to Moses in reply to his third excuse are given to show him and the Israelites in slavery that God was, much more powerful than Pharaoh, and able to deliver them. In the rest of chapters 3 and 4, in what other ways is Moses reassured of God's power despite his weakness?



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- Moses' 4th excuse (**chapter 4 : 10**) is that he isn't gifted enough for the mission God has given him. There may be areas of Christian service where you think you are not gifted enough. How does the passage below from **2 Corinthians 12 : 9-10** encourage you to step out in faith?

"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

- Moses' 5th excuse (**chapter 4 : 13**) shows that the root of the problem is that he doesn't want to do what God has commanded him. Can you think of times when you have used excuses with something that you know God's word commands you to do?
- Is there something you feel God is nudging you about at the moment where you are responding in one of these ways?

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2 CORINTHIANS 12:9

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REFLECT & PRAY

- As you reflect on Moses's story, turn your thoughts towards Jesus and take a few moments to compare Jesus' willingness to follow the Father's will with Moses' reluctance. Do this by reading the account of Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane in **Matthew 26:36-44**.
- How might reflecting on Jesus' willingness (in Gethsemane) to go to the cross for us help us to step out in obedience to hard things God has called us to do?
- Pray about your thoughts and all that has come up in your conversations.

