

The Person God Chooses and Uses

In Exodus 4:10-17, we find that Moses was called to deliver enslaved, hurting people. He was God's choice for the dark hour of Israel's sojourn in Egypt. But what kind of man was Moses? How was he used of God? How can we be used of God. God does not need to use us, but He chooses to do so as His means, or instruments, in carrying forth the Gospel and God's glory. Our weaknesses can be our strengths if only we learn to completely rely on Jesus Christ.

Moses offered several excuses to God in an attempt to get out of this assignment. Perhaps Moses did have some difficulties, but in this encounter with God at the burning bush, Moses most likely magnified his weaknesses beyond what they really were.

1. Moses was weak (Exodus 4:10). Moses told God, "I am not eloquent; I am slow of speech." Moses was one who was unlikely to be chosen. He would have to persuade the people of Israel. He would need to confront Pharaoh--the most powerful man in the world at the time--with God's demand that Pharaoh free the Israelites. We might have selected someone else, but Moses was God's choice for the assignment

God has often empowered those considered weak. The Apostle Paul called his own speech contemptible in 2 Cor. 10:10. He was considered more powerful in his correspondence than in person. Jonathan Edwards--probably the greatest philosopher and theologian on this side of the Atlantic--read his sermons in a high pitched, weak voice. His people were not known for hanging on the edge of their seats when he preached. Yet, God was pleased to use Edwards to spearhead revival in New England in the 1730s.

We need to be careful then, to not judge people by the ease and eloquence of their speech. Satan can and does use eloquent and fine-sounding speech in order to accomplish his ends.

We also need to understand that God may well use those who have the least number of gifts or talents (as we see them)--why? So that He might be lifted up all the more, and His grace be seen as more glorious.

2. Moses was hesitant (Exodus 4:13). He did not feel qualified for the task God had in mind. He wanted to defer to someone more able. He was said to be the meekest of all men (Numbers 12:3). To be meek is to be gentle, patient, to have power under control. It is the opposite of prideful. Of course, Jesus exemplified what

meekness is, and taught that the meek shall inherit the earth

3. Moses was not the obvious candidate (Exodus 4:16-17). He seemed so unqualified. He was not a take charge kind of fellow, and not the leader we would expect. God would have to compensate for Moses' inadequacies. He told Moses, "I will be with you in your mouth: I made it. Take this rod into your hand, and you will do as I instruct."

God uses whom He chooses, and He takes the responsibility to care for all the weaknesses we might have. It is God's business to choose the human means and then to furnish him with everything necessary to perform the task God has called him to do. John 15:16 says, "ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you."

Peter and John (not taught in the things of God) were called by Jesus (Acts 4:13). Dwight Moody was uneducated. Billy Sunday was a professional baseball player. Moses had failed before. God is sufficient as 2 Corinthians 3:5 teaches, "Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God."

God can use you and me. We can serve God as He finds us. Weak, meek, inadequate ones can take Christ to hurting, needy, people who are enslaved in sin.

F.B. Meyer (a British preacher of the early 1900s) wrote:

I used to think that God's gifts were on shelves

one
above
another
and the taller we grow,
the easier we can reach them

Now I find that
God's gifts are on shelves
one
beneath
another
and the lower we stoop
the more we get.

Pastor Craig Alan Myers