

Study and Reflection #2 – Week 3
Exodus 3:11ff

Self-perception is a major motivating factor in how we operate daily. We either 1) have a skewed view of who we are or, 2) want to be something which we are not or, 3) we know what is true about us and live from our true identity. As Christians, with God as sovereign over our lives, it should give us a sense of freedom and peace to live from who we are without trying hard to be something we are not.

In Moses' development, after God tells him to go to Egypt, Moses begins to make excuses. First, he makes the excuse of being inadequate (3:11, who am I). Next, he claims ignorance (3:13, what shall I say). After that he claims that he will be an incredible witness (4:1, they will not believe me). Then, he says he is inarticulate (4:10, I am not eloquent). Last, he is insubordinate (4:13, send someone else).

When God asks us to do something we have a choice; to fight with him, which in turn will lead to a struggle, or just go along with it even though we don't know the plan or can't see the results.

Of the above five excuses, which best represents the excuse you commonly make to God? May you have an inadequate view of yourself and if so, does that inadequate view win out? What might God be trying to get you to do and how might you be resisting?

Study and Reflection #3 – Week 3
Exodus 3:11-12; John 15:5; Philippians 4:13

In his commentary on Exodus, John Durham says the following, "Moses objected... 'who am I...that I...that I...?' and God answers, ... 'the point is I am with you.' Who Moses is, is not the question; it is rather, who is with Moses."

Read and compare John 15:5 and Philippians 4:13. Discuss what you discover. Looking back on Study and Reflection #2, our success does not depend on our natural abilities as much as it depends on our trust and obedience in God almighty. It has been said in this church before, "God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called."

With the truths stated above, how might an understanding of God's presence change the way you handle life's circumstances? How might it change your perspective? Pray that you can work toward adopting this truth in your everyday life and that God would help you.
