



## Week 1: ...Making Excuses

**Scripture:** Luke 14:14-16; Exodus 4

What do you hope to be different about your life?

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**Problem:** As soon as I decide to be different, Satan gives me \_\_\_\_\_ to stay the \_\_\_\_\_.

- I would like to, but....”

We've got \_\_\_\_\_ intentions instead of \_\_\_\_\_ intentions.

2 Questions:

\_\_\_\_\_ does God want to be different in your life?

\_\_\_\_\_ does God want this be different in your life?

- When you \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ why with the what, your \_\_\_\_\_ increases to do that which God has called you to do and that which \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Is \_\_\_\_\_ too \_\_\_\_\_ for the Lord?

v12: *“Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”*

\_\_\_\_\_ what you can do.

\_\_\_\_\_ God to do what you \_\_\_\_\_ do on your own.

**Start talking.**

- What are some of the most common excuses you make?

**Start thinking.** Read Luke 14:15-24

- What do you think about with the excuses that were given by the guests in this passage? Can you identify with any of them?
- Why do you think excuses are so easy for us to make?
- What things about your life do you think God wants to be different? How will these changes draw you closer to God?
- What are some of the dangers of continually making excuses when it comes to doing the things God desires you to do?

**Start sharing.** Read Exodus 4:10-12 and 2 Corinthians 12:9-10.

- What next steps do you need to take to help you quit making excuses?
- Which of those steps are things you cannot do without God's grace? In what ways do need to trust God to do what you cannot do?
- How would your life be different if you stopped making excuses and started obeying God?
- What are some of the things holding you back from totally relying on God in every area of life?
- To become the person God created you to be, what do you need to start doing? What do you need to stop doing?

- **Start praying.** *Be bold and pray with power.*

*Father, thank You for being better than we can imagine. It's easy to focus on my insecurities and limitations and forget that you have no limits. Help me to remember that your grace is sufficient for me and that your power is made perfect in my weakness. In Jesus' name, amen.*

**Start doing.** *Commit to a step and live it out this week.*

- Confess to God the most common excuses that you make. Commit to stop making excuses.
- Ask God what He wants to be different in your life. Commit to doing whatever is necessary to make those changes.
- Ask God to help you with the things you cannot do. Commit to building your trust in Him.
- Ask God to help you quit making excuses. Seek His strength and guidance to help you.
- Commit to God that you will rely on Him in all areas of life. Praise Him and thank Him for all He has done for you.