

REMOVING THE OBSTACLES TO GOD'S PURPOSE

May 6, 2023 Various Texts by Bob Branch
Finding and Doing God's Will, part 2

God has put things in you to contribute his good in the world.

BIG IDEA: To expose & remove the excuses, obstacles and places we hide from walking in God's fullness and potential.

Moses: I don't have what it takes. I can't. (Exodus 3-4)

I'm not adequate for the task.

"Who am I," (3:11) "I will be with you" (3:12)

I don't know enough.

"they'll ask me, 'What is his name?' what should I tell them?" (3:13)

Tell them, "I AM has sent me to you" (3:14)

People won't take me seriously.

"What if they won't believe me and will not obey me but say, 'The Lord did not appear to you?'" (4:1)

"They will listen to what you say" (3:18; 4:2-9)

I'm no good with words.

"Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent" (4:10)

"Who placed a mouth on humans?... Is it not I, the Lord? Now go! I will help you speak and I will teach you what to say" (4:11-12)

I'm not willing. "Please, Lord, send someone else" (4:13)

Gideon: The present as all there is. I can't. (Judges 6:12-23)

"The Lord is with you, mighty warrior."

"If the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us?"

"Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?"

"Pardon me, my lord, but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest, and I am the least in my family."

"I will be with you"

Simon: I failed & there's no recovery for that. I can't.

(Mt. 10:33; Lk. 22:54-62; Jn. 21:15-19)

Abraham: I'm too **old**. I can't. (Gen. 17:15-17; 18:12; 21:6)

Timothy: I'm too **young**. I can't. (1 Tim. 4:12)

Disciples: Not enough resources. We can't! (Mt. 14:18)

"Bring me what you have."

WORKAROUNDS:

¹ _____ **your eyes to Jesus**—less at your circumstances and yourself. (Heb. 12:1-2)

² **Focus of** _____. (Jn. 21:15-19)

³ **Change your** _____. (Phil. 4:13)

⁴ **Bring him** _____. (Mt. 14:18)

⁵ _____ **in faith**. (Mt. 14:28-29)

A FUNERAL FOR "I CAN'T"

"I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ***I can do all this through him who gives me strength.***" **Philippians 4:11-13**