



Sermon-Based Discussion Guide for Home Groups

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God is Bigger Than My Fears

Series: Big God

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Scripture

Exodus 4

¹ Moses answered, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, ‘The LORD did not appear to you’?”

² Then the LORD said to him, “What is that in your hand?”

“A staff,” he replied.

³ The LORD said, “Throw it on the ground.”

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. ⁴ Then the LORD said to him, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.” So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. ⁵ “This,” said the LORD, “is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you.”

⁶ Then the LORD said, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, the skin was leprous^[a]—it had become as white as snow.

⁷ “Now put it back into your cloak,” he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh.

⁸ Then the LORD said, “If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second. ⁹ But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground.”

¹⁰ Moses said to the LORD, “Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.”

¹¹ The LORD said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹² Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

¹³ But Moses said, “Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.”

¹⁴ Then the LORD’s anger burned against Moses and he said, “What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. ¹⁵ You shall

16 He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. 17 But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it.”

18 Then Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Let me return to my own people in Egypt to see if any of them are still alive.”

Engage

How would you define fear?

What is your greatest fear in life? How do you address this fear?

Discuss

1. Have the group scan chapter 3 for any promises God gave to Moses. Share those.

What promises has God given us?

2. Have the group scan chapter 4 for any excuses did Moses give? (verses 1 & 10)

What do these excuses reveal about his trust in God?

3. Can you think of some “fear of the unknown” that has been displayed in your life or in the life of your family? How should that have been handled?

4. Read verses 2-7 of chapter 4. What do you think God is trying to do for Moses in these verses?

5. Put yourself in God’s shoes. (We’re heading toward anger in verse 14.) If you were God, how would you feel about Moses’ lack of faith at this point?

6. The second fear in verse 10 is the fear of “I can’t”.

7. What keeps us from trusting God? If you could talk with God the way Moses did, would you then have faith? Is there anything you know God has led you to do? If He has spoken, how should we think about our fear?

8. In the story of Moses, who really did the difficult tasks? Is it the same or different in our day and time? If God really does the difficult tasks,

9. In verse 13, Moses wants someone else to go. That deals with our willingness. Has God ever called you to do something in which you struggled with willingness to be obedient? How did you deal with that?

10. How can our strength be a hindrance in our walk with God? Can you think of someone who has actually fallen from a perceived area of strength?

Your Next Step

Is there anything God has called you to do? Take some steps toward obedience this week. Do something small to get started toward the place you feel God is leading.

Children's Time

1. What are you afraid of the most?
2. Summarize chapter 4 for the children.
3. If God tells us to do something, do you think He'll make sure we are able to do it?
4. How should we deal with our fears? How should we deal with our fear of obeying God?

Other Passages Cited

Eph 3:20

Phil 4:13

Hebrews 11:27