

# Freedom is Embracing Your Weakness (Exodus 3:1-17)

## Video 2

Moses has given God several reasons as to why he's inadequate to the task.

And what's God's response?

God doesn't encourage Moses to think more positively, or to list his strengths. In fact, God *agrees* with Moses' view of his inadequacy.

But God *disagrees* with Moses in an important way. God *disagrees* that Moses' inadequacy should count him out.

"I will be with you," God says.

Later he adds: "I will help you speak and will teach you what to say."

In fact, every time Moses says, "I can't do it", God responds, "I know you can't... but I will!"

It's true. By himself, Moses *can't* speak well. People *won't* listen very well to him.

But here's the game changer: in his inadequacy, *God* will be with Moses. And that means he has all he needs.

Like Moses, we may feel daunted by the idea of following God. Or we might feel daunted by taking a risk for Him.

We may feel: I'm not the right person. I don't know enough. I'm afraid of what might go wrong. Especially if (like Moses) things went wrong when I took a risk last time.

We can feel particularly anxious when it comes to sharing our faith. We worry that we'll be asked questions we can't answer. We worry that we'll get tied up in knots. Like Moses, we may think: just send someone else!

But maybe we're thinking about freedom in the wrong way.

We think we're free when we feel up to the task. When we're in our comfort zone.

But if that's our view of freedom, we'll feel anxious and afraid in all the moments of life when we feel inadequate. In all sorts of situations, we won't really feel free.

God wants Moses to learn that true freedom involves *embracing our inadequacy*.

In our successes *and* in our apparent failures. God wants us to know that he is in control and that he will be enough for us.

So counter-intuitively, admitting we *can't* do it leads to freedom. The pressure lifts, even when the task seems impossible. We may say we can't do it. Yet, even then, we can look to our Heavenly Father to care for us and give us what we need.

Admitting our inadequacy is how someone comes to know God in the first place. We can never make ourselves right or earn a clean record. But God gives us Jesus. Who died for us to give us the forgiveness we could never earn.

We're inadequate. We need God. And that same pattern continues in the rest of life. Depending on God, even when we're out of our depth, brings freedom.

It stirs Moses into action. He tells his father-in-law:

**"Let me go back to my own people in Egypt to see if any of them are still alive."**

Moses starts small. He isn't yet talking about freeing his people, just about returning home. Yet this step of courage will lead to great things.

We are also called to embrace our own inadequacy and depend on God.

And – who knows? – our small steps of courage might lead us to great things too.