



**Mustard Seed Children's Summary for June 14, 2009
Released on Wednesday, June 10, 2009**

"Answering God's Call"

**Lesson Text: Exodus 4:10–16, 27–31.
Background Scripture: Exodus 4.**

Memory Verse—"I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do" (Exodus 4:15).

Exodus 4:10–16, 27–31

10 And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant; but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

11 And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?

12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

13 And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.

14 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

15 And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.

16 And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

.....

27 And the LORD said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him.

28 And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.

29 And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:

30 And Aaron spake all the words which the LORD had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.

31 And the people believed: and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

TEACHER'S NOTES

Moses had listened, and he had understood what God wanted him to do, but it was still hard for him to accept it. Like us, Moses found that it was one thing

to understand God's will but an entirely different and more challenging thing to do it.

Answering God's call meant accepting a certain amount of personal responsibility for getting his people out of slavery. It was at this point that the excuses began.

Moses complained that he was slow of speech, but God was not impressed with the fact that he was not a slick talker. God simply reminded him that all so-called natural or innate abilities come from Him and that He who bestowed them is able to control them.

God was angry with Moses' response, for He was well able to put the right words into Moses' mouth. Moses' excuse was more a put-down of God's ability than it was a description of Moses. Yet God listened to Moses' feeble argument and agreed to send his brother, Aaron, along with him as his spokesman.

Since Moses could not believe that God could enable him, he would have to share the blessing God wanted to give him with his brother, Aaron. In confirmation of this, God also spoke to Aaron and told him to go meet Moses. Together they would answer God's call.

THE OBJECT IN VIEW:

Encourage the children to answer when they hear God's call, trusting that He will enable them to do whatever He asks.

TRUTHS TO STRESS:

1. When God speaks to us, He expects us to say yes.
2. God will always make us able to do what He asks us to do.
3. God is not limited in the ways that He can help us be able to do what He asks.

PLANNING VISUAL AIDS

For Telling the Lesson, make a mouth that opens and closes. (Fold an oval piece of cardboard in half. Glue cardboard lips around the edges to form a mouth.) Find two dolls, or make them from clothespins or toilet paper rolls. Dress them like Moses and Aaron.

For Helping to Remember, design fat letters to spell "YES." Make a copy for each student. Bring crayons or markers, safety scissors (blunt tip), glue, and three empty toilet paper rolls for each student.

BEGINNING THE LESSON

Has your father or mother ever called you to come do something? When your parents call, what do they want you to do? (Come.)

Do they want to hear "Oh, Mom, I do not want to right now"? No! Do they want to hear "OK, I will think about doing it later—maybe this afternoon or tomorrow"? No! Our parents have good reasons for asking us to come or to do things. What is the only word they want to hear? "Yes." That is the only good answer. Say yes, and then do it. Let us spell it together: Y-E-S. Yes!

Last week we learned how God called Moses. God had a very special job for Moses to do. What was it? (He was to lead his people—God's people—out of slavery in Egypt.) God's people were suffering. God asked Moses to help them.

TELLING THE LESSON

What do you think was the answer God wanted to hear from Moses? (Yes!) (Teacher, let one student pick up the Moses doll.)

Instead, Moses began to make excuses. He said he could not speak very well. (Show the mouth. Let one or two students open and close it, saying, "I cannot speak very well.") Do you think God accepted Moses' excuse? No!

Then Moses said something very silly. Moses said he was never a good speaker. He was not a good speaker neither in the past, nor since God had been talking to him.

Wait a minute! God had just called Moses to serve Him. Moses had not even tried to speak to Pharaoh yet, so how could he have known whether he would speak to Pharaoh? Do you ever give up on something hard without even trying?

God was not happy with Moses' answer. God would never ask Moses or anyone else to do something he could not do. God just wanted Moses to say yes.

"Who made man's mouth?" God asked Moses. God made his mouth. God gave him the ability to speak. God could surely help him say what was needed! (Let another child work the cardboard mouth, asking the children, "Who made man's mouth?" They can respond, "God made our mouths.")

God reminded Moses that He had made some people unable to speak. (Hold the cardboard mouth tightly shut.) Some were made deaf, unable to hear (have the children cover their ears), or blind, unable to see (have the children cover their eyes), but not Moses (have the children shake their heads no). He could hear (have the children cup their hands around their ears) and see (have the children cup their hands around their eyes) and talk (have the children cup their hands around their mouths). All these abilities were gifts from God. (Have the children point up to God.)

God did not change His mind. "Now go," He said, "and I will help you speak." God promised He would teach Moses what to say.

Did Moses then agree to do what God asked? Not exactly. God wanted him to answer "Yes, yes, yes!" But in his heart, Moses still did not want to do it. His answer was still not a clear yes to God. Moses was still not ready to let God help him do the job. (Let a child shake the Moses doll's head no.) He finally asked God to find someone else to do the job. He had no more excuses, but he still did not want to do the thing that God was asking him to do. Was that a good way to respond to God? No, it was not good, and it was not very smart!

God was not pleased with Moses. God was angry with Moses. God had chosen him for a great job. Why could Moses not understand that God was able to help him do it?

Finally God agreed to send Moses' brother, Aaron, along with him to do the talking. (Let two children hold the Moses and Aaron dolls together.) God told Moses that Aaron was on his way to see him at that very moment. Aaron gladly agreed to go with his brother, Moses. He gladly said yes to God's plan.

Together the two brothers—Moses and Aaron—would stand before Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt. Together they would speak for God. Together they would tell Pharaoh to let God's people leave Egypt.

God could have helped Moses do it alone. He could have given Moses the ability to speak powerfully. He could also send Moses a helper. God has all power, and He has no limits. He has many ways of making us able to do what He wants.

TELLING HOW TO LIVE

God never asks us to do something we cannot do. He is always able to help us do what He asks us to do. If He puts it in your heart to pray for someone,

you can keep praying. God will help you. You can keep praying even if the answer is a long time coming.

If He lays it on your heart to write a letter, you can do it, even if you need to get help with some of the spelling. God has many ways of helping you. If He lays it on your heart to become a missionary, you can do it with God's help—even though it may be many years before you get to another country.

If He wants you to become a doctor, God can help you become one—even though you may have to work very hard and get extra help in school.

Maybe God will tell you to learn to ride a bike so that you can become better friends with a neighbor who likes bike riding. That might be a way to help your neighbor learn about Jesus. You might be afraid of riding a bike. But can God help you to learn? Oh, yes, He can!

If you sense that God is asking you to do something, never shrink back from doing it just because it seems too hard. It may be too hard if you tried to do it in your own strength, but we are never supposed to do anything for God just in our own strength.

You can always do whatever God asks of you because God is always ready to help you. So when God asks you to do something, what should your answer be to God? Yes, Lord, yes!

HELPING TO REMEMBER

Let the children color the letters creatively and cut them out. They may then glue each letter to an empty toilet paper roll so that the letters stand up to form the word "yes."

Let them scramble the letters and then return them to the proper order. Have them line up their "yes" crafts on the floor or a table.

Explain again that this is the word God wants to hear when He asks us to do something. Let the children read together from their line of "yes" crafts.

EXPLAINING THE MEMORY VERSE

"I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do" (Exodus 4:15).

God spoke to Moses, telling Moses what He wanted him to do. God had agreed to let Moses' brother, Aaron, go with him and speak for him. God said that Moses would tell Aaron what to say. God promised that He would be with them both to show them what to say and what to do. They would go to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, as God told them to do. God would take care of what they would say. God had asked them to do a very big job, but He would be with them. He would help them do what He asked them to do.

PRAYER:

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for helping us to trust in You, and Your Word (The Bible). For You truly provide all we need to serve You. Help us to accept Your call without making excuses, in Jesus' name, amen.

ANTICIPATING NEXT WEEK'S LESSON

Next week's lesson is "**Bricks Without Straw.**" Moses and Aaron told Pharaoh that God had commanded him to let His people go. Study Exodus 5:1-9, 22-6:1.

LESSON SUMMARIZED BY

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"Answering God's Call" (Exodus 4:10-16, 27-31)

S T K Q E P D M S T E A C H Y
P U Q C Z G E P I R H Q S L D
E U U S I T P J Z X E S D E E
A Z X B D S P N S W E D V W U
K M C J S A I J Z S X E L P G
L T W G C F H B O M I S F E N
H C E E P S S M R L M S Y M O
L M G D Z I R J E O I I D S T
K X N K S P O B Z G T L F L U
K I O R M E W A N N U H Y F S
H D A P X O V S A L V K E B B
F E O W H P X M T R R O B R T
L Y N G M L Y D P W O L S H N
N P F I X E F E A W D N I K V
P H A R A O H J K R M C F M Q

AARON
ELDERS
MOSES
SIGNS
SPEECH

BELIEVED
GOD
PEOPLE
SLOW
TEACH

BROTHER
ISRAEL
PHARAOH
SPEAK
TONGUE

“Answering God’s Call” Solution (Exodus 4:10–16, 27–31)

S + + + + + D + S T E A C H +
P + + + + + E + + R + + + + D
E + + + + + P + + + E S + E E
A + + + + + P + + + E D V + U
K + + + + + I + + S + E L + G
+ + + + + H B O + I + + E N
H C E E P S S M R L + S + + O
+ + + + + I R + E O I + + + T
+ + + + S P O B + G T + + + +
+ + + R + E W A N + + H + + +
+ D A + + O + S A + + + E + +
+ E O + + P + + + R + + + R +
L + + G + L + + + W O L S + +
+ + + + + E + + + + + N + + +
P H A R A O H + + + + + + + +

(Over, Down, Direction)

AARON (8, 10, SE)
BELIEVED (8, 9, NE)
BROTHER (8, 6, SE)
ELDERS (14, 6, NW)
GOD (4, 13, NW)
ISRAEL (6, 8, SW)
MOSES (8, 7, NE)
PEOPLE (6, 9, S)
PHARAOH (1, 15, E)
SIGNS (12, 7, SW)
SLOW (13, 13, W)
SPEAK (1, 1, S)
SPEECH (6, 7, W)
TEACH (10, 1, E)
TONGUE (15, 8, N)
WORSHIPPED (7, 10, N)

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