

The Cost of Easy Money

Lord Jesus Christ Community Baptist Church
Seminar: The Legacy Blueprint: Building a
Better You
Oakland County, Michigan

Introduction

This presentation will talk about how we need to stop making excuses and step into God-given assignment. An excuse is a lie we tell ourselves to justify our lack of action, rooted in our preference for comfort over commitment.

Scriptures

- Luke 9:62
- Proverbs 26:13
- Luke 14:18
- 2 Timothy 1:7
- Exodus 3-4
- Philippians 3:13-14
- Ecclesiastes 9:10



The Spiritual Roots of the “But”

1. Why do we do this?
 2. What is our excuse we trying to hide?

Fear of failure, fear of responsibility, lack of self-control.

We must use the power that God gave us by using our spirit gifts and abilities. We must show and have commitment and sound mind. An excuse is the sound of fear or laziness talking, not the voice of the Holy Spirit.

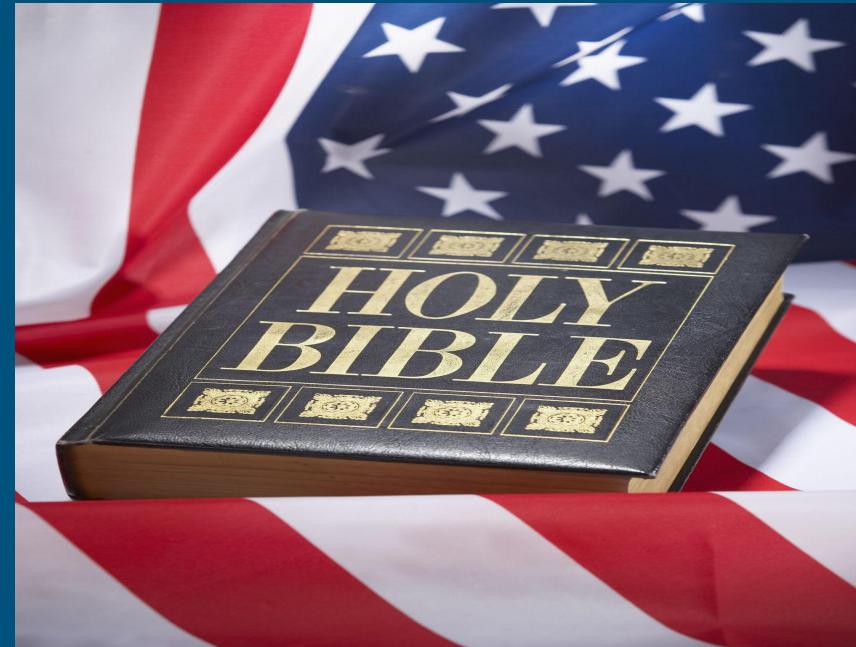


God Does Not Accept Excuses

The bible shows us that when God gives a command. He doesn't entertain human rationalization.

1. Who am I? (lack of self-worth)
2. Who are you? (lack of theological clarity)
3. They won't believe me. (Fear of man)
4. I am not eloquent. (lack of skill/talent)
5. Send someone else (Plain disobedience)

God never lowered the standard. God is glorified through our weakness, not by our excuses. He doesn't call the equipped. He equip the called. Caution that leads to inaction is viewed by God as wicked laziness. We are called to be stewards of our time, talent and resources; not hoarders motivated by fear.



Spiritual Solution: Choosing Action over Apathy

We overcome excuses by aligning our will with the will of God through three spiritual disciplines. Commitment requires forward gaze.

- Worry about what it is in front of you today.
- Think about the thing you can be doing right now to glorify God and avoid procrastination.
- Strain forward
- Replace “I can’t because” with “I can through Christ.”
- Stop making weaknesses your final word, let Christ power be the final word.



Discussion Questions

Questions to ask in your journal and discuss in Sunday school or with family or friends.

1. What is one area in your life where you find yourself saying “I do when I am more qualified” or “I will start when I am perfect”?
2. When you are making an excuse, what truth about yourself are you trying to protect or hide?
3. What is a good and legitimate responsibility that is functioning as an excuse to avoid a clear spiritual alignment God has given you?
4. In what area are you using the lack of time, money or skill instead of asking God for specific provision you need?
5. When you look at your calendar or bank statement, what would you indicate that you are prioritizing?
6. Where are you burying a talent out of excessive desire for safety and comfort?

Your Assignment for Your Journal

- Identify one thing you have been making excuses about.
- Think about the biggest goal that you procrastinate on and prove that you are serious about overcoming the excuse in within 24 hours.
- Share one area of excuse you want to defeat.