

### In The Wilderness:

- What we believe about ourselves is reinforced.
- The challenges in the wilderness will either <u>redefined</u> our <u>confidence</u> or reinforce our fears.

## Two phases of assessment:

First we ask:

• Am I capable of doing this?

 $26\,$  Those who trust in themselves are fools, but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe. Proverbs  $28{:}26\,\,(\text{NIV})$ 

#### Then we ask ....

- Is God capable of doing this through me?
- 12 Forget about self-confidence; it's useless. Cultivate God-confidence. 1 Corinthians 10:12 (MSG)

1 Now Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness... Exodus 3:1 (NIV)

9 Look! The cry of the people of Israel has reached me, and I have seen how harshly the Egyptians abuse them.

10 Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh. You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt." Exodus 3:9-10 (NLT)

#### How we respond to being used of God:

• I'm inadequate.

11 But Moses protested to God, "Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?" Exodus 3:11 (NLT)

• I'm uninformed.

13 But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they will ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what should I tell them?" Exodus 3:13 (NLT)

• I'm unqualified.

1 But Moses protested again, "What if they won't believe me or listen to me? What if they say, 'The LORD never appeared to you'?" Exodus 4:1 (NLT)

• I'm unequipped.

10 But Moses pleaded with the LORD, "O Lord, I'm not very good with words. I never have been, and I'm not now, even though you have spoken to me. I get tongue-tied, and my words get tangled." Exodus 4:10 (NLT)

22 Moses was taught all the wisdom of the Egyptians, <u>and he was powerful in both</u> <u>speech and action</u>. Acts 7:22 (NLT)

#### • I'm Unavailable.

13 But Moses again pleaded, "Lord, please! Send anyone else." Exodus 4:13 (NLT)

13 I can do everything God asks me to with the help of Christ who gives me the strength and power. Philippians 4:13 (TLB)

35 So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.
36 You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. Hebrews 10:35-36 (NIV)

### Cultivating God Confidence:

- Believing that God wants to <u>use</u> you.
- Knowing that God will always <u>help</u> you.
- 5 Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.

6 So we say with confidence, The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. Hebrews 13:5-6 (NIV)

1 God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. Psalm 46:1 (NLT)

• Stop making excuses, join a team.

# Have Questions? Text them to: (559)464-5754

Here are some questions that can be used in Connection Groups: These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- Have you read the story of Moses and the burning bush? What stands out most to you in the story? You can read it in Genesis 3-5.
- In your own words, what is the difference between self confidence and God confidence?
- Why is God confidence important to us as Christ followers? Does God confidence cause us to live differently?
- Do you identify with any of Moses' excuses (found under the heading: "How we respond to being used of God")
- What do our excuses reveal about our God confidence?
- Do you believe that God wants to use you to help people? Do you believe that God could be answering the prayers of others by using you?
- Do you absolutely know that God will always help you?
- Are you still making excuses that prevent you from being on a team? Why?

Connection Group Leaders: Remind your group of the following announcements: Stepping In Class- Mar. 26th Rummage Sale - April 22nd