

I Cannot Do It

By Ernest Echavarria

“I cannot do it.” This is something I told myself many times while growing up. I cannot read. I cannot get that good job; the list goes on and on. I thought I was the only one that felt this way. But I was wrong. There are great examples in the Bible that help us when we feel this way. When we feel either “I cannot do this anymore” or “I cannot do something that God wants me to do.”

For those of us who wrestle with this problem, we may find that we are a lot like Moses. Moses was born a Hebrew. At that time, Pharaoh was killing the Hebrew children because he did not want them to overthrow him. So when Moses’s mother could not hide him anymore, she sent him off in a basket on the river. Pharaoh’s daughter found Moses and raised him as her own. When Moses grew older and saw that one of his people was getting beaten, he killed the Egyptian. After doing this he ran away from Egypt. While running away he ended up in a village where he got married and became a shepherd.

One day while he was tending the flock he went to Horeb, and there he saw a burning bush. In Exodus chapters 3 and 4 God and Moses talk for the first time. While they were talking it seems that Moses did not agree with God’s requests. He offered several reasons why God should find someone else. Moses tells God in *Exodus 4:10* that he is not eloquent enough. God tells him that He will be with his mouth. In verse 13 Moses gives his last plea saying “Oh, my Lord, please send someone else.” So we can see that even Moses had doubts about what he could do. But as long as he believed that God was by his side he accomplished wonderful things.

There are other examples but this one touches me because I feel I am fighting a similar battle right now. In my family I am known as the “black sheep.” I did not kill anyone but I, like Moses, had to get away from my family to find out who I was. Now being a Christian, it is my responsibility to share what I have learned with my family and friends. Sometimes it is easy to talk to them. Other times I feel that it is the hardest thing that I have to do. I would rather ask

God to have someone else show them. I have to say that reading about Moses has helped me so many times.

I don't just have the example of Moses. I would have to say the best example is Jesus. He knew what was going to happen to Him. He knew what had to be done. He could at any time call any amount of angels to save Him. He even had one of His apostles try to help Him. The thing is, He knew He had to go through being beaten, mocked, and laughed at. He knew that He would have to carry His cross to be hung. He knew that His hands and feet were going to be nailed to the cross for you and me. He even asked His Father to forgive them because they did not know what they were doing (***Luke 23:34***). He knew all this was going to happen, but He never said, "I cannot do this." Instead He said, "... not My will, but Yours be done."

God asks us, as Christians, to do certain things. He wants us to be the salt of the earth and lights to the world (***Matt. 5:13-16***). God gives us the choice to be the salt and the light. It is up to us either to say, "yes, God, I will be the salt and the light you want me to be." Or we can be like Moses when he first spoke to God, coming up with reasons why He should choose someone else. I can say that it is an honor to work for God. He never gives you more than you can bear (***1 Corinthians 10:13***). I need to start saying in my life, "not my will but Yours, Lord." I forget sometimes, but the things that help me most are the examples of Moses and Jesus. Remember anything is possible with God (***Matt. 19: 24-26***).