



GROUPSDISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK Jan 29–Feb 4

MAIN IDEA

The habit of excuses.

CHECK IN (HIGHS & LOWS) 15 min

1. Take turns quickly sharing the “highs & lows” of your week. High: What was your biggest highlight since we last met? Low: What was the low point during this time?
2. What scripture did you meditate on last week? Did God reveal any areas of pride you were unaware of?

SETTLE IN (ICE BREAKER) 10 min

What is something you know you should do but do not like doing?
How do you talk yourself out of doing it?

DIG IN (UNDERSTANDING) 35 min

1. Read Luke 14:15-24. How do you relate to those who gave the excuses to not show up to the banquet?
2. What do you believe Jesus was trying to reveal through the parable in Luke 14?
3. What is the consequence of saying no to God’s invitations?
4. Read Exodus 4:1-17. How do you see Moses reacting to God’s invitation?

5. How does God respond to Moses’ reaction? When have you seen God do this in your life? What did your experience with God reveal about his character?
6. Read John 10:10. How might making excuses to accept an invitation prevent you from living the life Jesus desires for you?
7. Read Ephesians 2:10. How should this verse encourage you as you think about being called into something outside of your comfort zone?

GEAR UP (APPLICATION) 15 min

1. Are you currently in step with where you believe God is calling you? If not, what do you think you are being called into? Are you making excuses that prevent you from stepping into it?
2. What are some practical steps you can take this week in breaking the habit of making excuses?

STEP UP (HOMEWORK) 5 min

1. Use one of the scriptures above to meditate on this week. Share with your group at the beginning of next week’s meeting about any areas where God revealed that making excuses is preventing you from stepping into his call on your life.
2. If you purchased the book, *Creatures of Habit* by Steve Poe, read chapter 6 on Worry to prepare for next weekend’s sermon.