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**Sermon – Excuse Me? (Thy Will Be Done Series)**

**Scripture – Luke 9:57-62, Exodus 3:10-14**

**Main Message – The only person an excuse benefits is the one who makes it.**

Imagine a world where making an excuse is never heard. That doesn't seem practical, but the excuse has advanced in importance the more sophisticated our world has become. It is yet another weapon in the arsenal of those who are uninterested in commitment. We use the excuse to hide the truthfulness of our intent, desires, feelings, or all the above. I think we can all agree that it is hidden poorly. The "excuse" skills of some are off the charts. Everybody uses it occasionally, but today I'm hoping to make a case our go to should be, "NO EXCUSE." I have to watch myself here because sometimes you must be excused, but perhaps by another.

**Read Luke 9:57-62**

The world requires things of you. The Kingdom of Heaven also requires things. One thing this role as a Christian and as a Pastor has taught me and I purpose it in my heart is to never say "No" for doing anything for the Kingdom of God to the best of my ability. I have also bent my plans to meet the needs/wishes/will of others. That is a broad scope of activities. I have married people that I've never met and will likely never see again, but I do it for the Kingdom. I've only said no because I can't be in two places at once. I've been invited to parties. Doesn't sound like a terrible thing, because it is an opportunity to spread the Gospel and not to simply have a good time. I've done funerals for others in our community as well as outside of it – to be of service. If I am asked, I do what I can. Sometimes I grumble a bit internally – my wife may say externally, but that's me trying to not explode. I'm like most people, a bit stubborn in some areas and you see, it can't my will be done, but God's will. I can't treat the Kingdom of God like a salad bar to pick and choose what I want and don't want. So, I'm not perfect, but I am focused on becoming more aware of "God's will be done."

So here is a practical test for you to use. When you're asked to do something, especially for the purposes of God, be honest first with yourself. Then purpose it in your mind to do what is laid before you for a path.

You can say to God, any number of things... all excuses." You're not alone in making "excuses" to God's to do something. The Bible is filled with examples of people who make excuses to God. Here is one of many.

**Read Exodus 3:10-4:14**

When an Excuse is made to not serve the Kingdom, God's plan won't be undone, but only your part in the story. You will not be everything He intended. The two most often excuses I hear are these: 1) I don't know, and 2) I don't have time. The mind that makes those excuses is one that doesn't recognize the power of God. Moses was overwhelmed by what was asked of him. God's power was displayed through Him. The less you know, the more his Glory Shines and after all. It is HIS WILL BE DONE, not ours. We need to start giving up our will be done and make it about exactly what Jesus taught his disciple when asked how should we pray... THY WILL BE DONE!