

Have you ever made an excuse before? For example, maybe you said you were too tired to clean your room, or not smart enough to finish your homework. Or maybe you said you couldn't make your bed because a monster was outside your window and you had to use the force to grab your light saber and stop the monster before it broke the window and ate the whole family! Ok, maybe that was a bit over the top to be a real excuse, but you get the point.

We often make excuses when we don't want to do something, or when we think we can't do something. Did you know people in the Bible made excuses too? In Exodus 4, God tells Moses to go and set His people free from slavery, and guess what Moses says? He says, "No", and then gives a list of excuses of why he can't do what God is calling him to do.

He first said that the people of Israel would not believe him, then he said he wasn't good at talking, and then he just asked God to send someone else! Can you imagine saying "no" to God? What was Moses thinking? Didn't he know you are supposed to say "yes" to God?

So why do you think Moses said "No" to God instead of "Yes"? It was because he was afraid he was not good enough to do what God wanted him to do. Moses thought he needed to be smarter, or taller, or better looking, or better smelling, or, at least, better at talking. But guess what? Moses didn't need to be any of those things! He only needed to trust in God, because God was the One who was really going to accomplish this rescue mission, not Moses.

Here is what we need to remember from this story. When God tells us to do hard things (like obeying our parents, or loving those who are mean to us) we don't need to give excuses for why we can't, but rather we need to trust God who can do it through us! So the next time obeying is hard, don't say, "I can't", but instead say, "I can through Christ who strengthens me!"