

What's in your hand?



EXODUS 4:1-5



What's in your hand?

It's easy to see where kids find security...

-Not always so obvious with adults
- ...We're looking and hoping for safety, security, and importance
- Most of the things we cling to, we are incapable to provide
 - Through all our inept searching, God is working to provide!



What's in your hand?

Moses in chapters 2-4; What do we know about Moses early on?

- **1. The adopted son of Pharaoh's daughter**
- **2. Highly educated and accomplished in Egypt**
- **3. Killed an Egyptian**
- **4. Moses =**
 - **“Son” in Egyptian**
 - **“Drawn from water” in Hebrew**
- **Would serve for years to come that God had rescued him and provided, even from birth**



What's in your hand?



- **Some of us get our security from our past or heritage**
- **We cling to it, or we deny it and try to hide it**
 - **All of this was Moses!**
- **Accept your past as part of you and don't give it disproportionate importance**



What's in your hand?



▪ **Moses has now left Egypt, left his position and culture; he's been in Midian for about 40 years...changed his life!**



▪ **Though he's come to terms with his new life, maybe he looks back at what used to be and wants that**



What's in your hand?



▪ **Some of us get our security from the hope of a “reboot” or a desire for the way things were ~ but we’re stuck in the “in-between”**

▪ **1. God delays some things in order to make US right**

▪ **2. God delays some things in order to make the WORLD right**

▪ **Embrace delays as times of replenishment and preparation for the task ahead**



What's in your hand?



1Then Moses answered, “But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you.’” **2**The Lord said to him, “What is that in your hand?” He said, “A staff.” **3**And He said, “Throw it on the ground.” So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. **4**But the Lord said to Moses, “Put out your hand and catch it by the tail”—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand—
5“That they may believe that the Lord, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you.”

~ Exodus 4:1-5 ESV

What's in your hand?



- **At the burning bush, God is calling Moses to go speak to the elders and to Pharaoh – not too hard, right?**
- **But it's a difficult, painful, frightening return**



What's in your hand?



- **We're insecure as we try to guess how others perceive us**



What's in your hand?



- **We lose the feeling of security when God brings change**
- **“This seems like a death sentence!”**
- **“I’m a shepherd now – I’ve come to terms with that.”**
 - **However lonely the desert or stubborn the sheep, it can seem that *they* are preferable to change!**



What's in your hand?



- **We can hold to any or all of these things and hope that they provide security**
- **They promise security but deliver faithless lives and disobedient people**



What's in your hand?



■ **VV. 2-3**

■ **What's in Moses' hand?**

- **At 80 years old, he relies on his staff and has a history with his staff and trusts his staff**



What's in your hand?



- **Two things about Moses' staff:**
 - **1. It represents everything God has been preparing him for...**
- **What do you hold in your hand?**
- **Bad? Negative? Confusing? Delays? Dead Ends?**
 - **“Throw it on the ground!”**



What's in your hand?



- **2. It's the thing that can keep him from obeying...**
 - **What do you hold in your hand?**
 - **Yours? What you're good at? Better than failure? Wish it was more, better, different?**
 - **“Throw it on the ground!”**



What's in your hand?



■ If we don't act in radical, sacrificial faith, we're just crazy people that talk to bushes in the desert!



What's in your hand?

- **Release your control**
- **Embrace the next place that God wants for you**
- **Release the negatives of the past**
- **Embrace who God has made you to be for now and in the future**
- **Release your clutching grasp on empty security and fear of loss**
 - **See God do God-sized things!**





Thank you to all of you who made our Truth Weekend such a success!

Our host homes: The Englebrechts, Zatopeks, Martinezes, and Zody's.

Our Life Groups for providing food and to Carol Boriskie for coordinating.

Daryle Ryan and Home Depot for mulch at our service project.

Liz Brown for her organizational genius.

Stuart and the small group leaders.

We couldn't have done it without you!

Shoes for Haiti

Over the last few Sundays, we have raised over \$400 to buy over 400 pairs of shoes!

Through Samaritan's Feet and Mike & Pat Liles we will be delivering not only new shoes, but we are also able to bless the people of Haiti with the Gospel and tell them about God's love because of YOU and The Sanctuary Fellowship!

On behalf of the hurting people of Haiti, thank you!

All for God's glory!



Ladies Bunko Night

When: Friday, March 26, 7 pm

Where: Pebble Creek Ranch Apt clubhouse

Details: Bring a snack, a friend and be ready for a great time!

*Sign up at the resource center



Ladies' Bible Study resumes Monday, March 22- 7pm

IT'S TIME FOR PRESCHOOL!



Beginning TODAY, our children will now be in the following classrooms:



Nursery: Birth through 12 months

Young Toddlers: 12 to 24 months

Older Toddlers: 24 to 36 months

Preschool: Ages 3 to 5





SPRING FORWARD!

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
BEGINS MARCH 14!**

**DON'T FORGET TO SET
YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD
ONE HOUR.**