



The Person – Lesson 1

What's in Your Hand?

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Read Exodus 4:1-17

1. Without God's power, a staff is just a staff. Without God's power, whatever is in your hand will be humanly limited or even useless.

- *Vs. 2 - The Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?" Moses said, "A staff."*
- Question: What assignment has God given you that you are trying to accomplish without His power?
 - Dealing with difficult people
 - Marriage/Parenting
 - Evangelizing
 - Your job?

2. Limiting God, at its root, is unbelief.

- *Vs. 10 - But Moses said to the Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and tongue.*
- *Vs. 11 - Then the Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the Lord?"*
- Question: What is a situation in your life in which you are not believing God?

3. Obedience often calls us out of comfort, but where God guides, God provides.

- *Vs. 13 - "Oh my Lord, please send someone else."*

- Vs. 15 – (God provides Aaron) *"You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth."*
- Question: Are you obediently using what's in your hand, or are you staying in the "safe zone" because you lack faith that God will provide what you need?

4. We are transformed when God's power anoints what's in our hands (Result – We grow in trust and dependence; God gets glory; we can then speak truth that inspires others).

- Moses is transformed as he leads the Israelites through the Red Sea.
 - Progression - *See Exodus 14:13-16 and then The Song of Moses (Exodus 15)*

5. What is in your hand?

- talents/abilities
- location
- resources
- possessions
- influence
- connections
- Other?
 - Samson had a donkey jawbone and used it to kill a thousand men.
 - David used a sling and stones to defeat Goliath in the valley of the shadow of death.
 - A boy had five loaves and two fish.
 - The innkeeper had an inn and made room.

Conclusion:

We've all been given unique gifts and open doors. What you have in your hand is unique, because God is original like that. Sometimes our gifts are used front- and-center, and other times they're offered in the quiet where only Jesus sees. But each one is important and needed in the body of Christ, intended to help pave the way to point empty souls to the Bread of Life.

The ordinary becomes extraordinary when God anoints it

Reflect:

- Are you trying to accomplish an assignment in your own strength? Recognition is the first step. Confess. Surrender.
- Are you struggling with believing God in a situation? His Word is truth and life, and is full of reasons to believe Him.
- Are you walking in obedience, even (and especially) if it means getting out of your comfort zone?

Using what's in our hands is useless in the fulfillment of the Great Commission if it doesn't result in advancing the gospel. Provision instead becomes charity.

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere.

2 Corinthians 2:14, ESV