

What's In Your Hand?

October 11, 2026 | Pastor Scott George

Exodus 4:1-5, 1 Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The Lord did not appear to you'?"

2 Then the Lord said to him, "**What is that in your hand?**"

"A staff," he replied.

3 The Lord said, "Throw it on the ground." Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. 4 Then the Lord said to him, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail." So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand.

5 "This," said the Lord, "is so 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."

Excuses People Use

Exodus 4:1a, Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me ..."

"Ninety-nine percent of the failures come from people who have the habit of making excuses."

– George Washington Carver

"He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else."

– Benjamin Franklin

- I'm not qualified.
- I'm too old.
- I'm worn out.
- I'm too busy.
- I'm waiting for a sign.
- I'm waiting for the perfect opportunity.
- I've failed too many times.
- My past disqualifies me.
- I need more training.
- I don't know where to start.
- I'm not spiritual enough.
- I'm not good enough.

5 Lessons We Learn When We Give God What's In Our Hand

Exodus 4:2, *Then the Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?"*

1. God uses the ordinary to accomplish the extraordinary.

"Little is much when God is in it."

– Kittie L. Suffield

2. You must recognize the power of His presence makes the difference.

3. Your talent is meant to be surrendered, not just held.

4. Act in faith. Use what you have right now.

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

– Theodore Roosevelt

5. Your obedience brings freedom and blessing to others.

What Happens When You Hold On Too Tightly To Your Gift?

"I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all; but whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess."

– Martin Luther

1. You rob others of a blessing.
2. You miss out on the joy of being used.
3. You deny God glory.
4. Your gift stagnates.
5. You become self-centered and self-focused.
6. You hinder growth in you and others.
7. Fear and disobedience take root in your heart.
8. You forfeit earthly and heavenly rewards.
9. You eventually lose what you've been given.
10. You miss out on inspiring others as you invite God's discipline.