



## PART 4: *WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND?*

### **INTRODUCTION - Faith As A Reflection Of Sanity**

If a) personhood is the highest form of existence, and b) relationship is the highest form of reality, then c) faith is a reflection of \_\_\_\_\_.

1 John 4:16

### **LOOK TO THE BOOK - The Burning Bush**

Exodus 4:1-17

- What makes a leader? (2:11)
- Is the Angel of the LORD the LORD? (3:2+3:4; John 1:1)
- What makes something holy? (3:5)
- How does God identify himself and what does that suggest? (3:6)
- How does God want to accomplish his plans? (3:8+3:10; 3:17+3:18; 3:20)
- What is God's name and what does that mean? (3:14; Acts 17:28; Colossians 1:17)

MOSES' STAFF (4:1-5, 20) =

- A symbol of his \_\_\_\_\_ – a shepherd.
- A symbol of his \_\_\_\_\_ – sheep.
- A symbol of his \_\_\_\_\_ – a tool of guidance.

MOSES' ATTITUDE & GOD'S RESPONSE (4:10-17)...

Lamentations 3:33  
Luke 12:48

### **SO WHAT?**

TAKE OUT #1: God wants to partner with \_\_\_\_\_ to make the world what it should be. In fact, since he created us, his identity is wrapped up in his \_\_\_\_\_, not his power.

TAKE OUT #2: \_\_\_\_\_ is being tuned in to the reality that all the good things we are and have we receive from God. It is *not* being in denial about all the good things we are and have!

TAKE OUT #3: God calls us to be willing to lay down all that we have \_\_\_\_\_ for the mission he has called us to accomplish.

Luke 14:27

### **CONCLUSION - Answering The Question**

Luke 12:48; Revelation 22:12-13

## HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS...

### WARMING UP...

1. After reviewing this week's message, talk about your reaction. What things most challenged, perplexed, or encouraged you?
2. Discuss the implications of this quote by Rabbi Balfour Brickner: *One of Judaism's more audacious theological principles is that God and humanity need each other to complete the creative process.*

### LOOK TO THE BOOK...

3. Read **Exodus 3:1-4:17**. A) What verse or thought stands out to you the most? Why? B) Who do you think "the Angel of the LORD" is? Why? C) What is the lesson behind the pronouns "I" and "you" in **3:8 & 3:10**? Can you think of other examples in Scripture that show the same theme of human-Divine partnership? D) If God knew that he would personally have to step in to get Pharaoh to listen (**3:19-20**), why would he send Moses and Aaron first? E) What do you think is the significance of the divine name that God reveals to Moses? Why is Jesus' allusion in **John 8:56-59** so deeply offensive to his religious audience? F) What "burning bush" has God used in your life to get your attention? F) In what ways is your reaction to God's call on your life i) similar to Moses' and ii) different to Moses'?

### SO WHAT?...

4. Take a few minutes to individually meditate on **Exodus 4:2-3**. What is your "staff" (i.e., identity, income, influence)? How tightly do you hold on to it? How so? Take a few minutes to pray for each other, that you might have the faith to use it in the way God requires.

Bruxy Cavey @ THE MEETING HOUSE – Sunday, November 20 / 27, 2005