



## Sermon Notes

**Term** – Summer 2019

**Series** – Moses

**Gathering & Date** – the 5, 18 August

**Title** – The inner journey of Moses (Part 1)

**Preacher** – Paul Langham

**Reading** – Exodus 3:1 – 4:5

**Main message of this talk in one sentence** – When God asks Moses, ‘What is that in your hand?’ his shepherd’s staff represented

- Failure, disappointment and loss: he’d been raised in unimaginable luxury and privilege in Pharaoh’s household, but was now a shepherd – and didn’t even own the sheep he was guarding
- Disdain – ‘all shepherds are detestable to the Egyptians’ (Genesis 46:34)

**Main points** –

God turned this symbol of failure into a symbol of power, authority and leadership (Exodus 14:10-16)

God is intent on redeeming even our failures, disappointments and losses – not simply neutralising them, but transforming them into areas of strength he can use for his kingdom purposes

**Questions** –

Imagine God asking you the same question he asked Moses in Exodus 4:2 – ‘What is that in your hand?’ ... what answer would you give? In other words, what are you ‘carrying’?

Is there anything you’re carrying that represents failure, disappointment and / or loss?

Do you believe that God doesn’t simply want neutralise them, but to transform them into areas of strength he can use for his kingdom purposes?

If you find that hard to believe, how can you partner with him to build your faith for that, and to see that transformation come about?

Is there something you can share in your group, either an example of where God has done just that, or an area where you need him to intervene?