

What Is That In Your Hand?

Exodus 4:2



DO YOU
BELIEVE?



Jeremiah

5 ‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.’

Jeremiah 1



Esther

14 ... And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?’

Esther 4

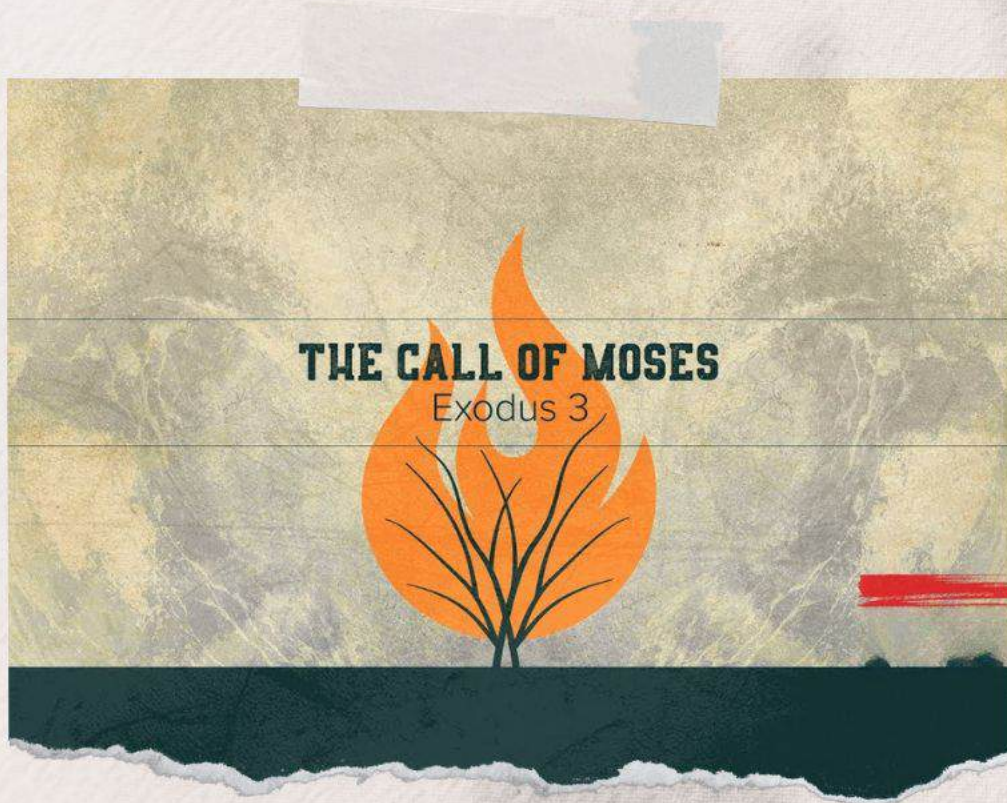
6 'ALAS, SOVEREIGN
LORD,' I SAID, 'I DO NOT
KNOW HOW TO SPEAK; I
AM TOO YOUNG.'

Jeremiah 1

REASONS
&
EXCUSES

M O S E S

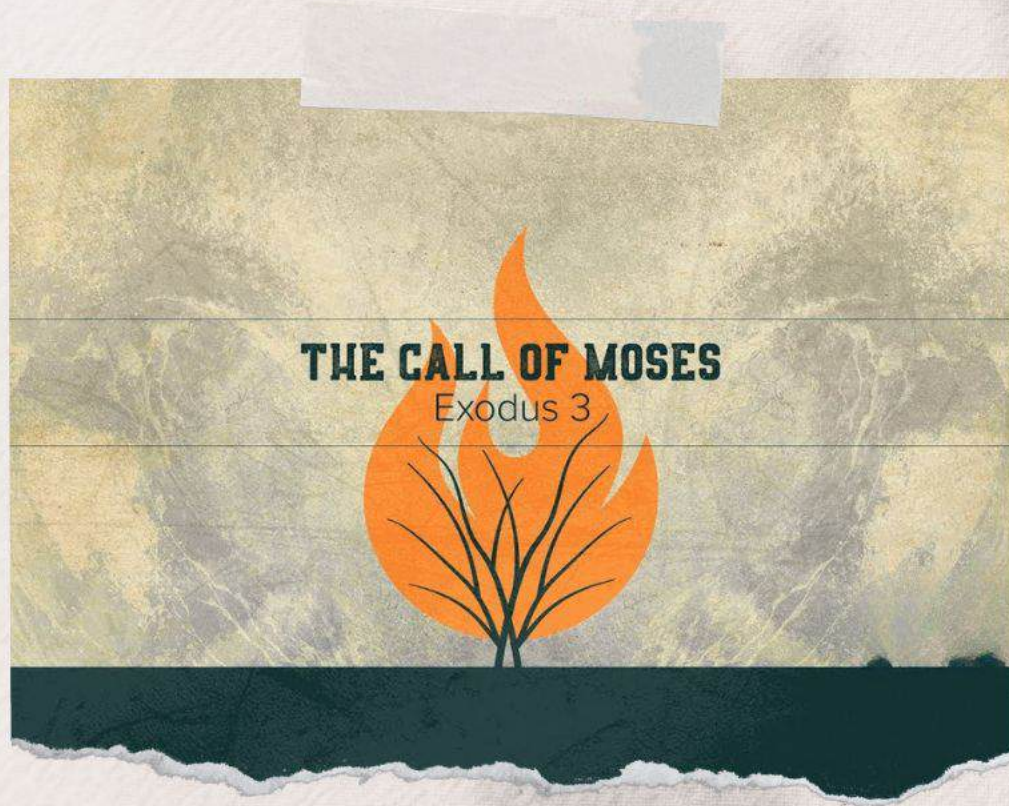
The background is a textured, painterly illustration of a sea. The water is dark blue and black, with white foam from waves crashing. In the center, a bright orange and yellow fire burns on a bush, with a white, stylized bush silhouette below it. The word 'MOSES' is written in large, white, perforated letters across the middle of the image.



1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. 2 There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. 3 So Moses thought, 'I will go over and see this strange sight – why the bush does not burn up.'

4 When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, 'Moses! Moses!' And Moses said, 'Here I am.'

5 'Do not come any closer,' God said. 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.'



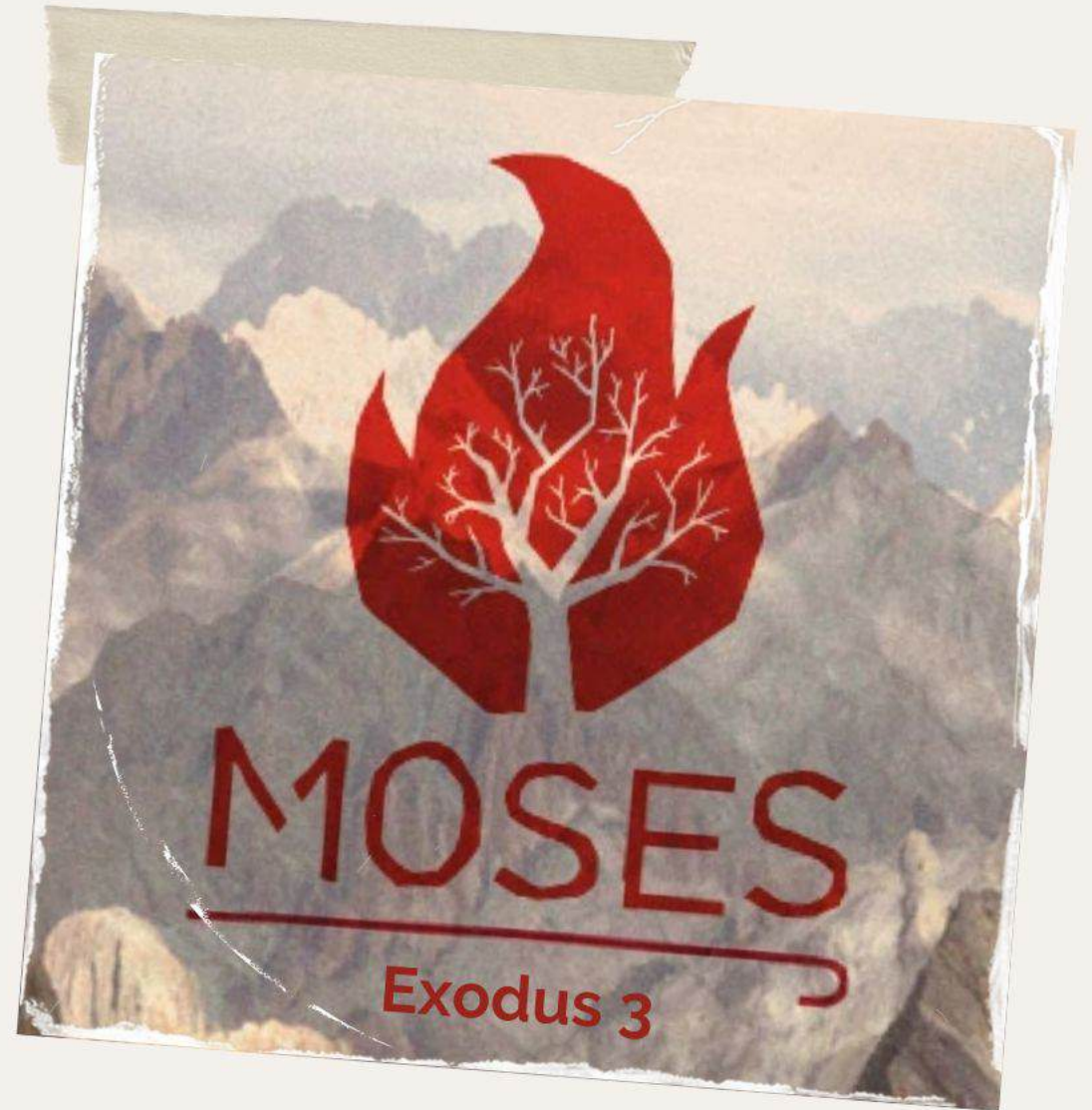
6 Then he said, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

7 The Lord said, 'I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. 8 So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey – the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. 9 And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. 10 So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.'

INFERIORITY

11 But Moses said to God,
'**Who am I** that I should go
to Pharaoh and bring the
Israelites out of Egypt?'

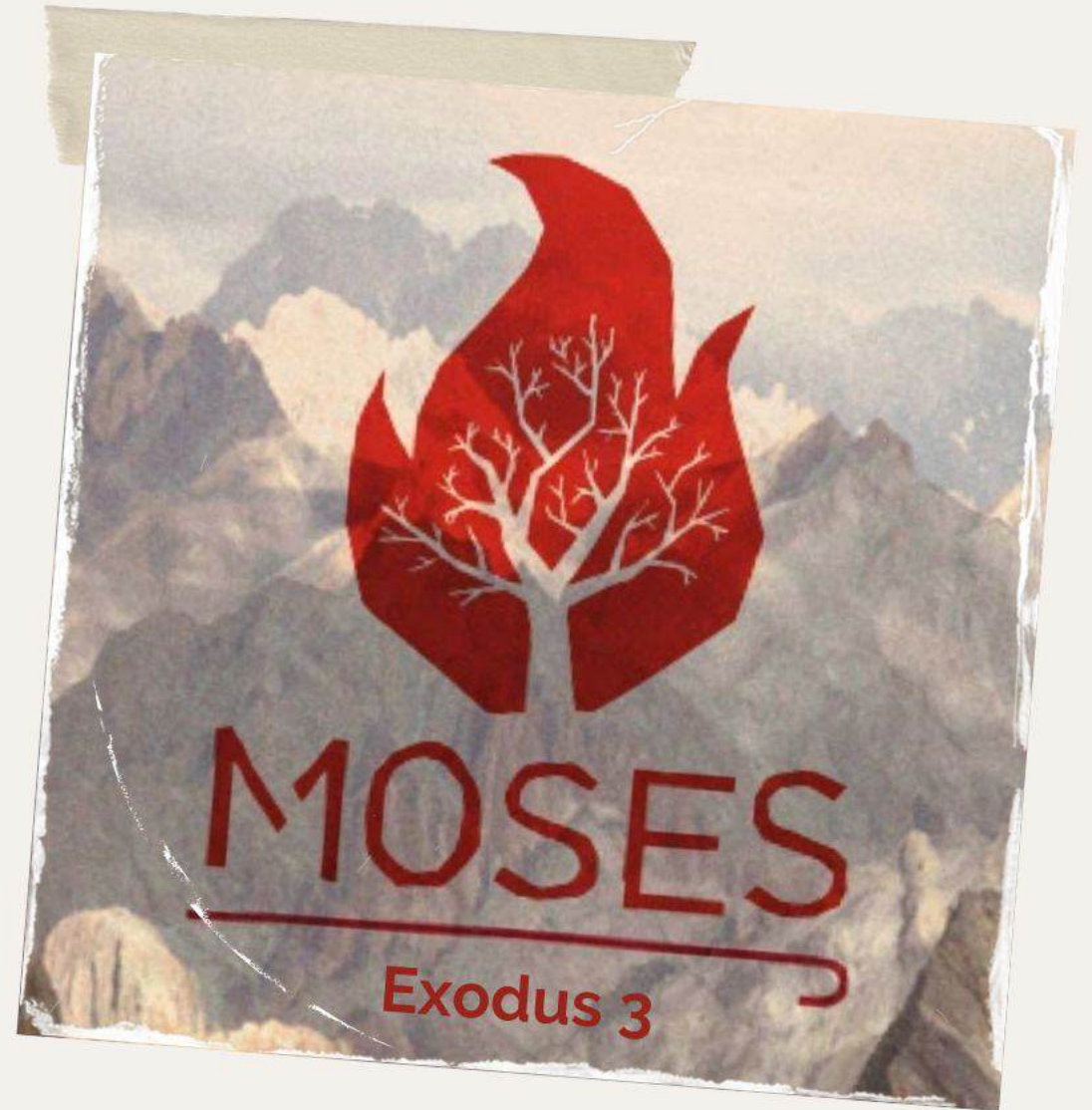
"I AM A NOBODY!"



INADEQUACY

13 Moses said to God, 'Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you," and they ask me, "What is his name?" **Then what shall I tell them?**'

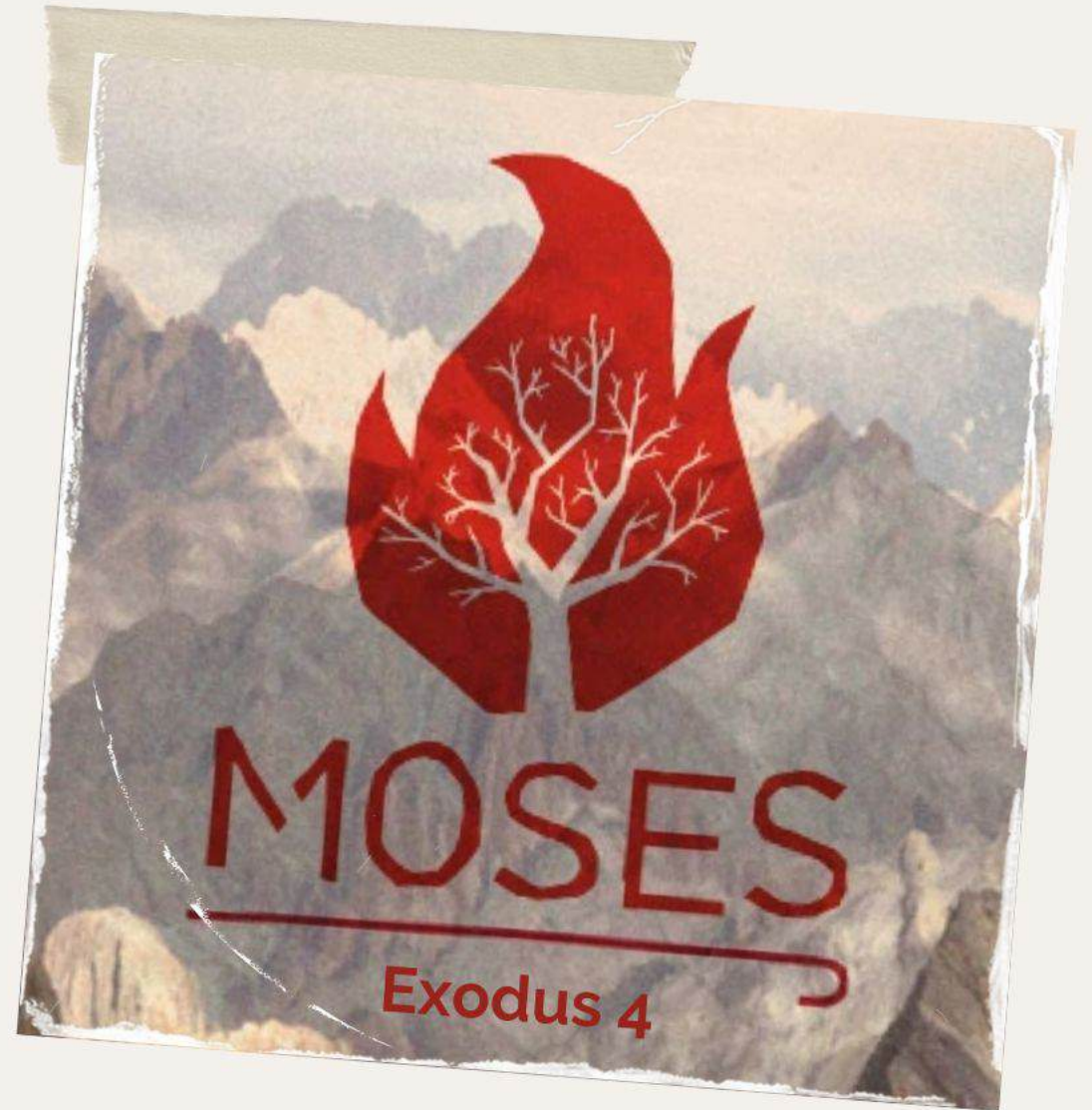
"I DON'T KNOW ENOUGH"



CREDIBILITY

1 Moses answered, ‘**What if they do not believe me** or listen to me and say, “The Lord did not appear to you”?’

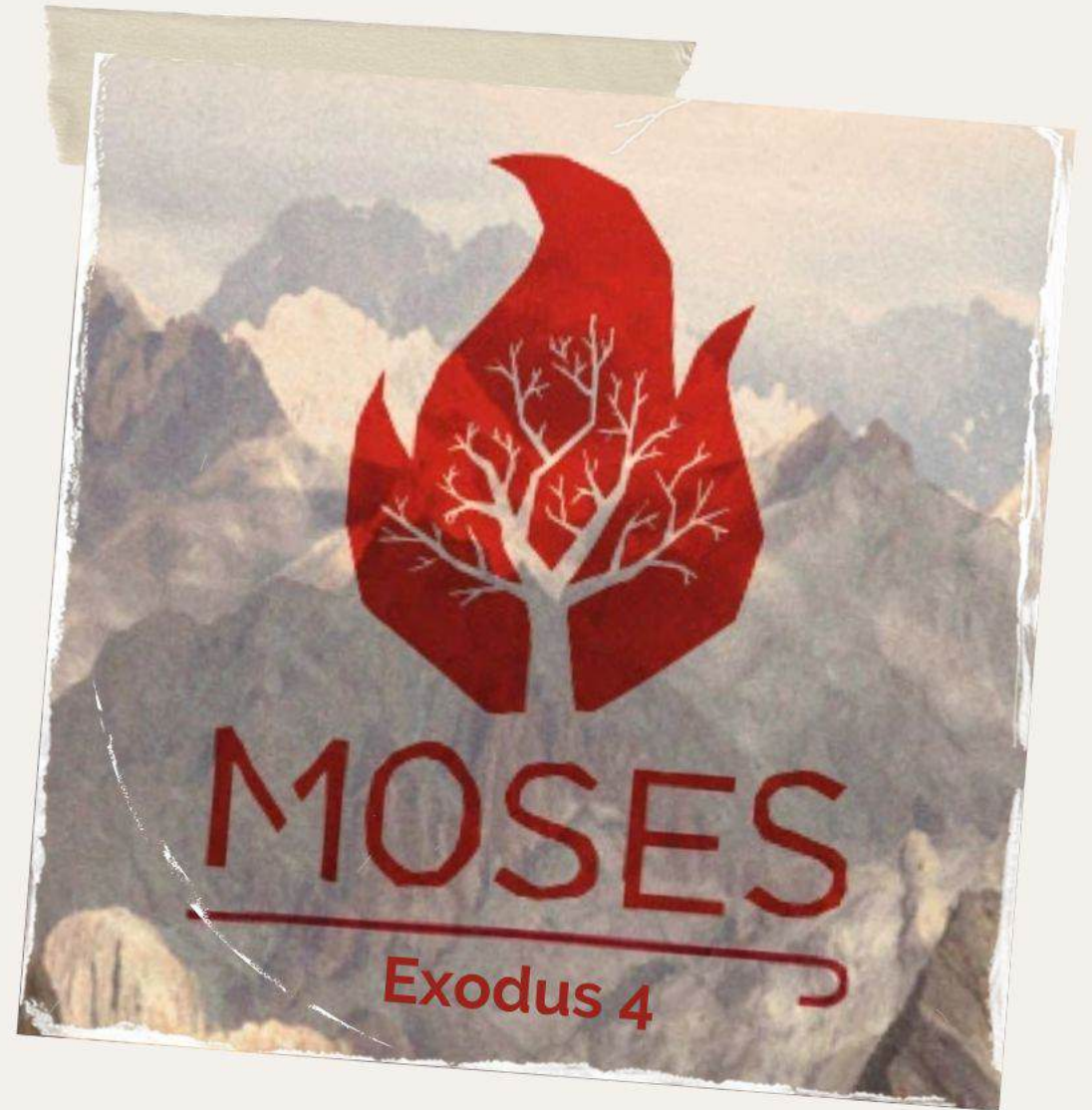
“NO ONE WILL BELIEVE ME”

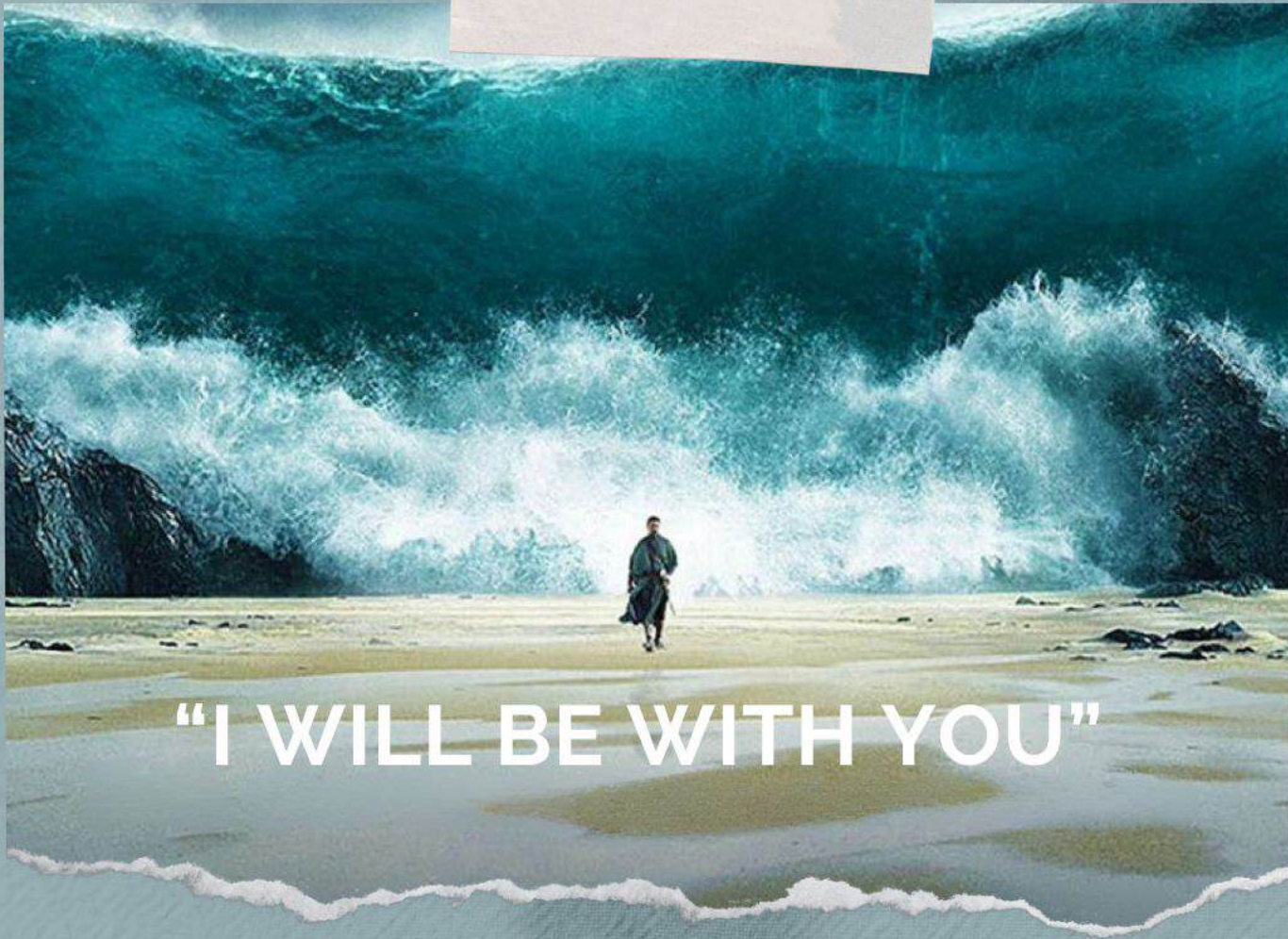


INCOMPETENCY

10 Moses said to the Lord, 'Pardon your servant, Lord. **I have never been eloquent**, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. **I am slow of speech and tongue.**'

"I DON'T SPEAK WELL"

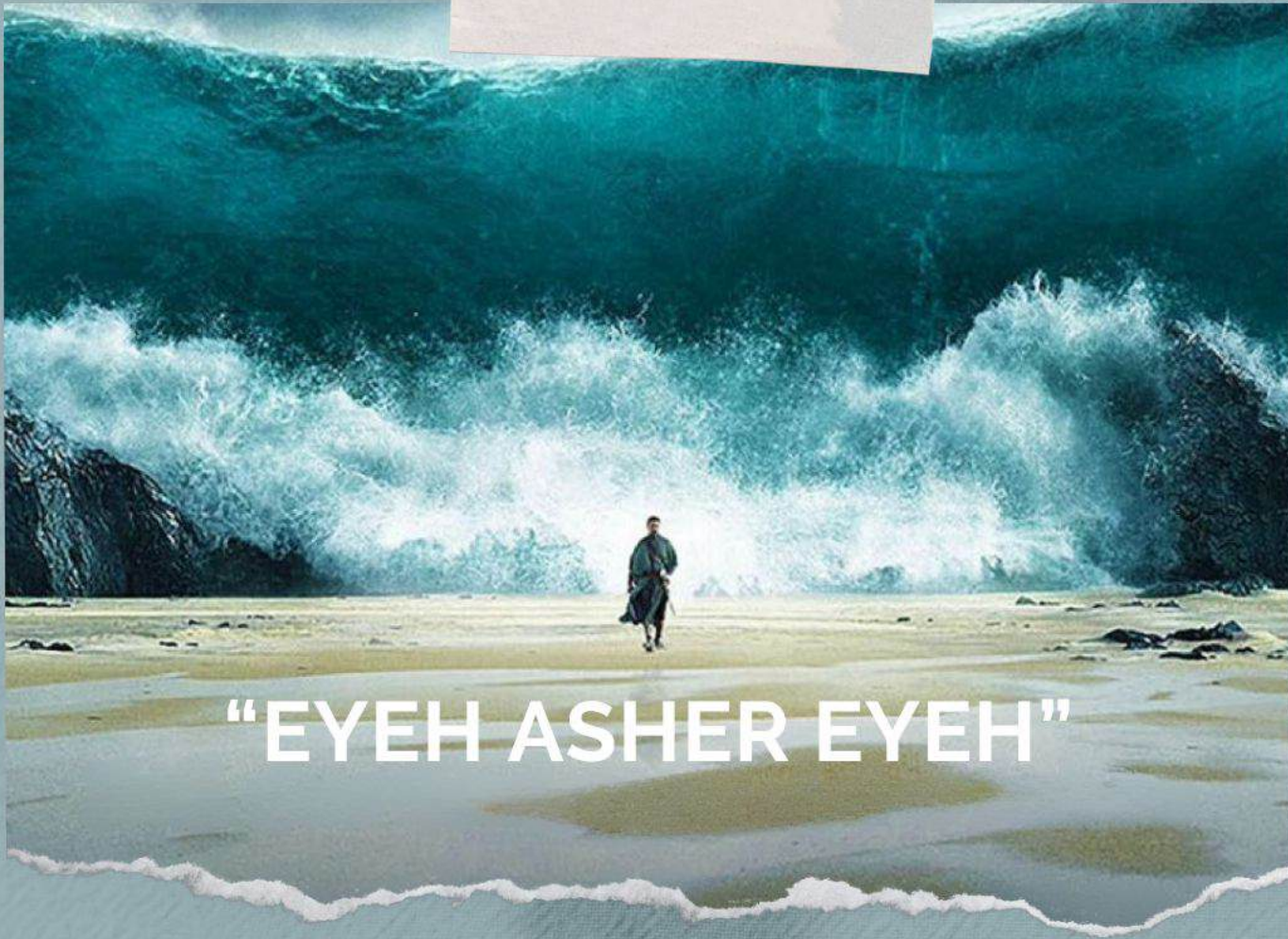




“I WILL BE WITH YOU”

12 And God said, ‘I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.’

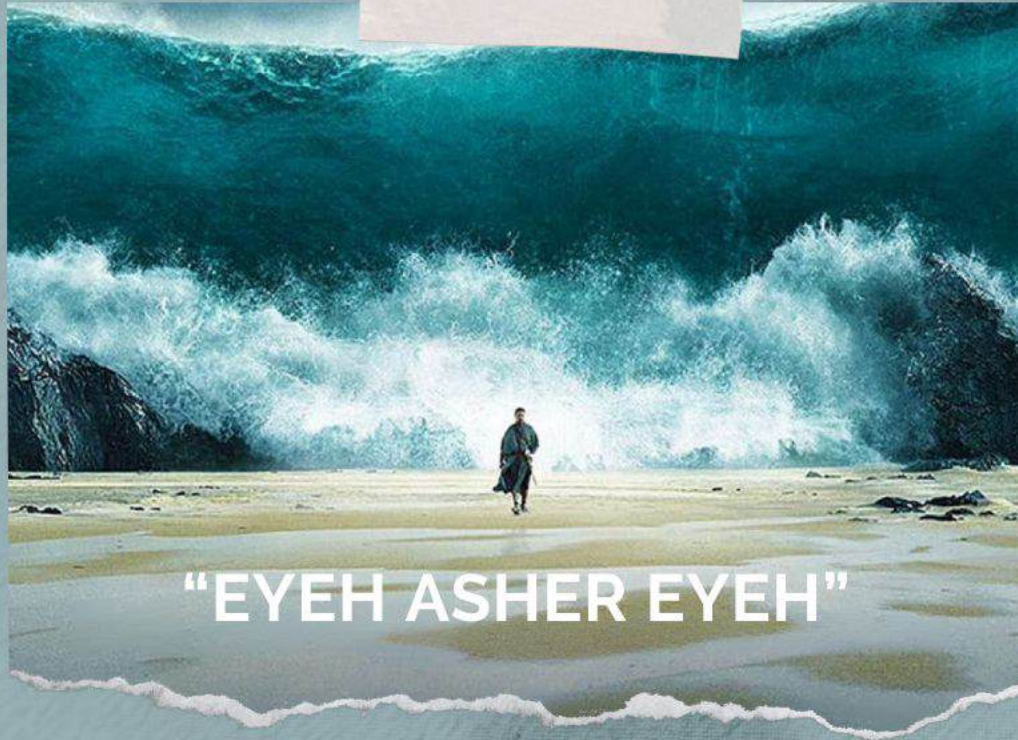
Exodus 3



“EYEH ASHER EYEH”

14 God said to Moses, ‘I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: “I am has sent me to you.”’ 15 God also said to Moses, ‘Say to the Israelites, “The Lord, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you.”’

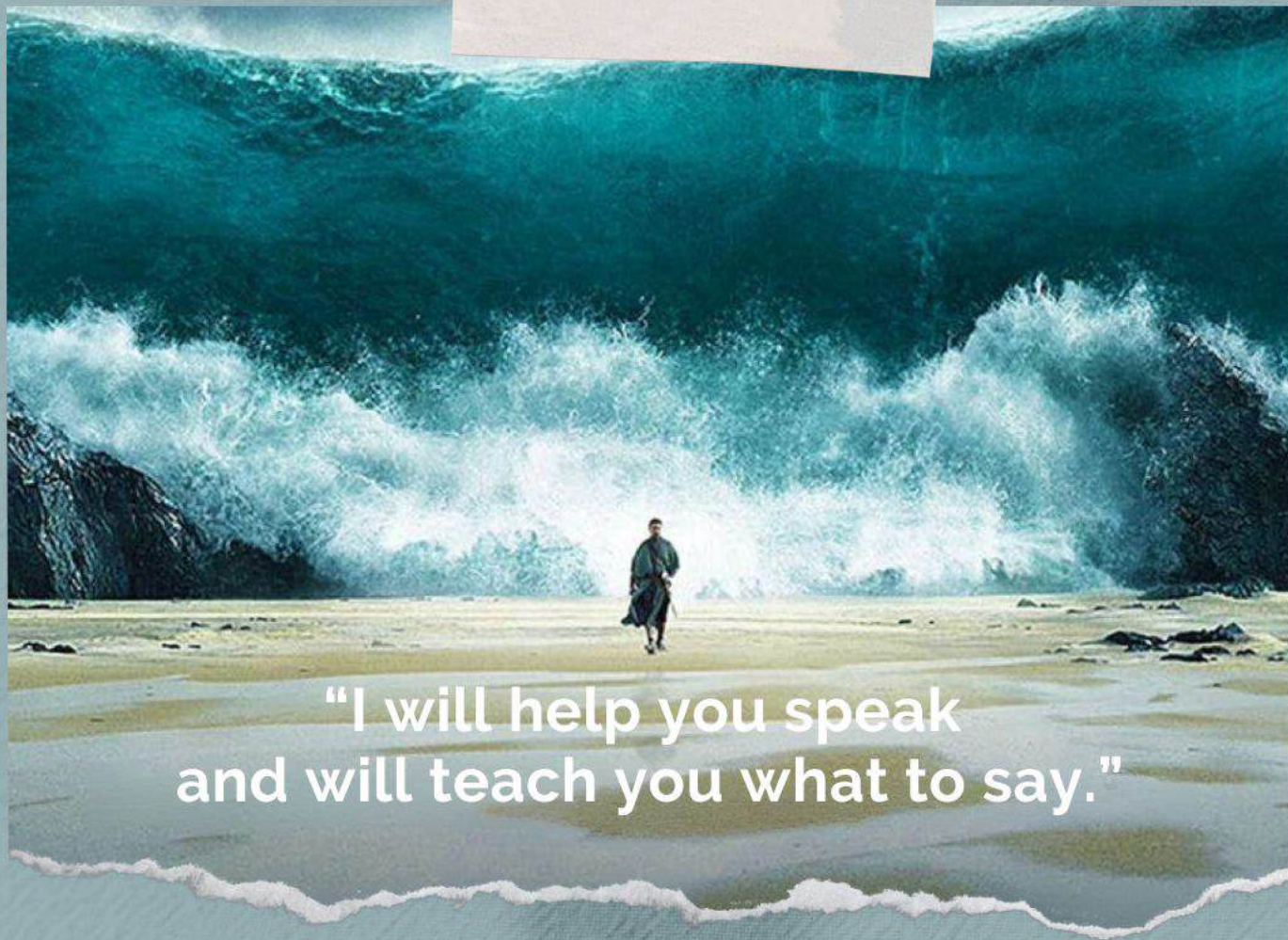
Exodus 3



"EYEH ASHER EYEH"

I AM is the ultimate statement of self-sufficiency, self-existence, and immediate presence. God's existence is not contingent upon anyone else. His plans are not contingent upon any circumstances. He promises that He will be what He will be; that is, He will be the eternally constant God. He stands, ever-present and unchangeable, completely sufficient in Himself to do what He wills to do and to accomplish what He wills to accomplish.

(Got Questions, "What Is The Meaning of I Am Who I Am")



**“I will help you speak
and will teach you what to say.”**

11 The Lord said to him, ‘Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the Lord? 12 Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.’

Exodus 4

THE HEART OF
THE MATTER
IS THE MATTER OF
THE HEART.



I AM UNWILLING

13 But Moses said, 'Pardon your servant, Lord. **Please send someone else.**'

Exodus 4

“ANYBODY ELSE BUT ME!”

WHAT'S
YOUR
EXCUSE



FEARS & INSECURITIES

1- I AM A NOBODY

3- NO ONE WILL
BELIEVE ME

5- I DON'T HAVE
WHAT IT TAKES

2- I DON'T KNOW
ENOUGH

4- WHAT HAPPENS
IF I FAIL?

6- SOMEONE ELSE
COULD DO
A BETTER JOB





you've got the wrong guy

WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND?



2 Then the Lord said to him, ‘What is that in your hand?’ ‘A staff,’ he replied. ... 17 But take this staff in your hand so that you can perform the signs with it.’

Exodus 3



Widow's Jar of Oil



Boy's 5 Loaves & 2 Fish



Moses spent 40 years thinking he was somebody; 40 years learning he was nobody; and 40 years discovering what God can do with a nobody.

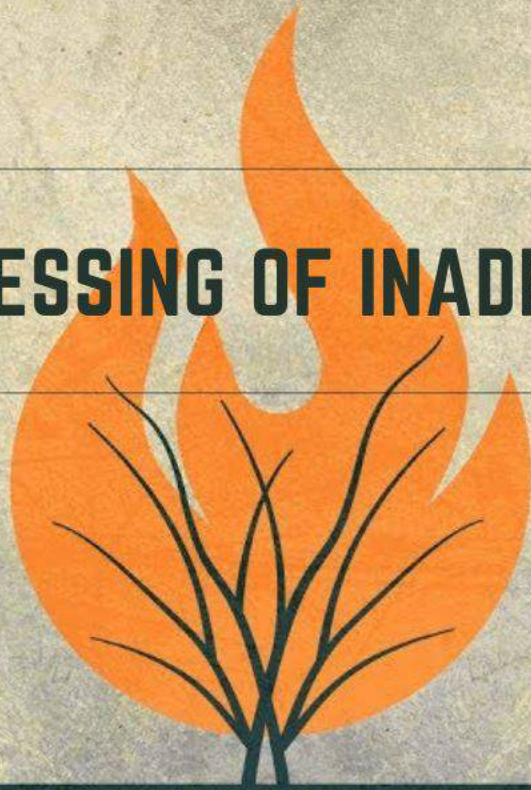
D.L. MOODY

A close-up photograph of a human hand, palm up, holding a small, glowing white sphere. The hand is illuminated from the side, highlighting the texture of the skin and the lines on the palm. The background is a solid, deep black, which makes the hand and the glowing orb stand out prominently. The overall mood is mysterious and contemplative.

WHAT IS THAT IN YOUR HAND?



THE BLESSING OF INADEQUACY



What's your story?



WHAT IS THAT

in

YOUR HAND

