



## Gospel Community Notes & Questions

**Title:** I AM Has Sent You

**Text:** Exodus 3-4

**Theme:** You must see who you are in light of who God is and what he's empowering you to be and do.

**Teaching Notes:** After 40 years in the wilderness, Moses encounters an astonishing sight: a bush is burning but not being consumed. The LORD speaks to him out of the bush and commissions him to go to Egypt to liberate his covenant people. But Moses is more focused on his fears and his sense of inadequacy than on who God is and what God has called him to do.

### Outline:

#### 1. Encounter. (3:1-15)

- "I AM who I AM" = God is mysterious, self-existent, unchanging, and eternal.

#### 2. Embassy. (3:16-22)

- a. God had a message for the Israelites. (3:16-17)
- b. God had a message for Pharaoh. (3:18-22)

#### 3. Excuses. (4:1, 10-17)

- All of Moses' excuses are derived from the fact that he's more focused on who he is than who God is.

#### 4. Evidence. (4:1-9)

- a. The sign of a staff turned to a serpent.
- b. The sign of a hand turned leprous.
- c. The sign of the Nile's water turned to blood.

#### 5. Exaltation. (4:18-31)

### Application Questions:

1. Where are you more focused on a challenging person or situation than on God himself?
2. What are you afraid of and what inadequacies do you sense?
3. Which fears and inadequacies do you think justify disobedience?
4. How does the character of God speak to your fears and inadequacies?
5. How will God be exalted because his strength is made perfect in – and in spite of – your weakness?



**Questions to explore individually and with your group:**

1. What's one thing you learned or observed from Exodus 3-4?
2. What's something God's called you to do as a matter of mission or obedience that leaves you feeling fearful or inadequate? The best you're able, try to name exactly what you're afraid of or what your feelings of inadequacy stem from.
3. What are you actually focused on when you're overwhelmed with your own inadequacy rather than God's sufficiency?
4. What was God's initial answer to Moses' "who am I?" question? See 3:12. What is God trying to get Moses to focus on, rather than his own insufficiency? How is that relevant to something you're facing right now?
5. What did you understand about God's name, "I AM" / "YHWH" before this sermon? What additional understanding did you gain this week? What questions do you still have?
6. In what way(s) have you been called to be an embassy/ambassador of the Lord?
7. What are some common or recurring excuses you find yourself using to justify your lack of trust in God or obedience? What heart issues (like desires or fears) are at the root of those excuses?
8. How was the sign of the staff-turned-serpent-turned-staff-again a humiliation of the gods and leaders of Egypt? What gods or symbols of power might God choose to humiliate if he gave a similar sign to our culture today?
9. What was the result of Moses' begrudging obedience at the end of Exodus 4? How might God do something similar through you, if you simply live as a witness to Jesus in spite of your fears and feelings of inadequacy?
10. What one actionable thing will you do this week in response to this message?

**Prayer Prompts:**

1. Praise the Lord that he equips the called rather than calling the already equipped. Praise him for using broken vessels to exalt his redeeming love.
2. Acknowledge your fears and inadequacies before God – and especially acknowledge how you use these to justify disobedience.
3. Ask God to enable you to trust that he is present with you as the eternal, uncreated, self-existent, covenant-keeping God.