



Stewardship Footprints

WHAT'S IN YOUR HAND?

Exodus 4:2

When God called Moses to lead the people of Israel out of bondage, God met Moses in the wilderness. Moses, like many of us, made excuses and looked at what he did not have. God simply asked Moses, "What is that in your hand?" (Exodus 4:2) Moses went on to make lots of excuses as to why God needed to look for someone else. In the end, Moses accepted the role God had for him and led the people out of Egypt. He led them from being a people to being a nation because he used what he had for God's purpose.

It is very easy to fall into the trap of despair when times are hard. There are many of our fellowship who are suffering the very real pain of loss of jobs or homes. Even those of us whose incomes have not been affected by the current economic climate are re-trenching and counting our pennies. All of this talk of crisis and hardship—and we are still among the wealthiest people on earth. We still have many resources that can be used for God's purposes.

It is very common in the church for us to look at our situations through the lens of scarcity. We focus our energies and dialogues around what we can't do—what we can't afford—how little there is. This, my friends, is not the God honoring way we should look at things.

The Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." Exodus 4:2

God is always generous! God always provides all we need to accomplish the mission and ministry that God has for us. God asks us as God asked Moses, "What is in your hand?"

You are invited to look at what you have. What has God given you? Look again—and ask yourself, "How does God want me to use what I have to be the hands and feet of Christ?"

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

At a Baptist Campus Ministries weekly worship service at Marshall University in Huntington, WV, last year, the students were challenged to receive an offering in response to their learning more about the global sex trade. The offering would be used to buy the freedom of a woman that had been enslaved into prostitution.

College students are believed to have little or no disposable income. These students were not asked to do a fundraiser or campaign—they were simply asked to give what they could to free a woman from slavery.

The 150 students gave what they had, and nearly \$1,000 was received (the amount needed to free the woman). The students did not focus on what they did not have—they simply responded to God with generous hearts with what they had.

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