# **SERIES discussion guide** A purple and white text with a cross AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**BREAKTHROUGH**  
**CHAD HEROLD**  
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If you would like to watch the message, visit [rpc.me/messages](https://www.rpc.me/messages/).

**MESSAGE RECAP**This week, we explored the story of **Moses** in **Exodus 4:1-5**, where God calls him to lead the Israelites out of slavery. Moses, feeling **unqualified and insecure,** questions God: “What if they don’t believe me?” (v.1). In response, God asks him, “What is that in your hand?”—a simple staff.

Moses didn’t think much of it, but when he **surrendered it to God**, the ordinary staff became a tool for the miraculous. The same is true for us—God can use what we already have, even when we feel ordinary, unqualified, or stuck. Breakthrough happens when **our participation meets God’s power**—but it requires trust. The question is: **Are we willing to let go and trust God with what’s already in our hands?**

**WARM-UP QUESTION**

* Have you ever been asked to do something completely out of your comfort zone? How did you respond?

**READ**

**Exodus 4:1-4**

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. How did Moses respond when God called him to lead (v.1)? *(Moses doubted God’s calling on his life, expressing fear of rejection, insecurity in his ability, and anxiety about the unknown outcome.*)
2. Have you ever felt unqualified for something God (or life) has placed in front of you? What did that feel like?
3. How often do you feel strong and courageous when stepping into something unknown? Read Joshua 1:9. How does this verse speak to those moments? *(God doesn’t say, “When you feel strong and courageous, then move forward.” Instead, He commands, “Be strong and courageous,” because feelings are often unreliable. Our confidence comes from His presence, not our emotions.)*
4. God asks Moses, “What is that in your hand?” (v.2). Moses only saw an ordinary staff but God saw a tool for breakthrough. What are some seemingly “ordinary” things in your life – talents, passions, experiences, relationships, or even struggles - that God might want to use for His purpose?
5. Why do we often overlook what’s already in our hands? Think back to Chad Herold’s acronym for BUTS - how did he define it? *(Big Ugly Trust Issues)*
6. In verse 3, Moses had to let go of his staff before God worked through it. What steps did Moses take that we also need to take in surrendering to God? *(Let go, throw it down, surrender, trust God with it.)*
7. What is something you’ve held onto (a job, plan, opportunity, habit) that was hard to let go of? What made surrendering so difficult?
8. God told Moses to pick up the snake by the tail—something that made no logical sense (v.4). Yet, Moses obeyed, trusting God with the unknown.
   * How might taking a step of faith, even when you don’t see the outcome, open the door for something greater? *(God isn’t asking us to figure everything out—He's asking for trust. When we surrender control and act in faith rather than fear, we make space for God to move in ways beyond what we imagine. Our obedience can lead to unexpected miracles, transformation, and impact.)*

* Moses’ breakthrough wasn’t just for him—it was for the Israelites who had been praying for freedom.
  + Have you ever considered that **your** breakthrough could be the answer to someone else’s prayer? How does this thought encourage or challenge you?

**APPLICATION QUESTION**

* **Take inventory:** What’s in your hand? Write down skills, experiences, relationships, and even struggles that God could use.
* **Surrender something to God this week**: What’s one thing (fear, control, doubt) you’ve been holding onto that you can intentionally trust God with?

**SUMMARY**

* God meets us in our insecurities.
* Breakthrough starts with what’s already in your hand.
* Faith requires action.
* Breakthrough isn’t just for you – it’s meant to flow through you.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Your closing prayer can include:

1. **Gratitude** – *Thank You, Lord, for this time together to study Your Word.*
2. **Acknowledgment of new insights** – *We are grateful for the wisdom You have given us today.*
3. **Request for guidance** – *As we go into our week, help us remember what we’ve learned and give us the courage to obey Your calling. Amen.*

**LEADERS:**

If anyone in your group is interested in serving, they can sign up at [rpc.me/volunteer](https://www.rpc.me/volunteer/).