

Exodus

Staff and Speech - week 4

March 14, 2026

As we journey through Exodus together, create space to listen, reflect, and grow. There is no pressure to have the “right” answers – only an invitation to be present. Trust the Holy Spirit to lead the conversation and to gently shape your heart along the way.

Open up together:

- Can you think of a time when something small or ordinary (like Moses’ staff) ended up being used in a significant way?

Read Together:

Exodus 4:2-3

Then the Lord said to him, “What is that in your hand?” **“A staff,”** he replied. The Lord said, “Throw it on the ground.” Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it.

Exodus 4:20

...And he took the staff of God in his hands.

Exodus 5:1-3

“This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.’” Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD and I will not let Israel go.” Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Now let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, or he may strike us with plagues or with the sword.”

Exodus 5:6-9

“You are no longer to supply the people with straw for making bricks; let them go and gather their own straw. But require them to make the same number of bricks as before; don’t reduce the quota. They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’ Make the work harder for the people so that they keep working and pay no attention to lies.”

Exodus 6:1-2

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: Because of my mighty hand he will let them go; because of my mighty hand he will drive them out of his country." God also said to Moses, "I am the LORD.

Exodus 7:12

Each one threw down his staff and it became a snake. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs.

Exodus 3:20

So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them...

1 Corinthians 1:18

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Reflect & Share:

- Why do you think God chooses to use something Moses already has (his staff) instead of giving him something new?
- Pharaoh asks, "*Who is the LORD that I should obey him?*" What does this question reveal about Pharaoh's worldview and understanding of God?
- The story depicts a clash between two forms of power—Pharaoh's and God's. What are some of the ways our world defines or pursues power today?
- The Israelites experienced hardship after Moses first spoke to Pharaoh (their workload increased). Why do you think it can be difficult to trust God when circumstances initially get worse instead of better?
- Stephen The message asked the question: "*Whose hands is it in?*" What is something in your life right now that you tend to hold tightly instead of placing in God's hands?

Pray Together:

Pray that God would help you recognize the places where you are trying to hold control, and ask Him to help you place those things into His hands.