HERE AM I ... SEND SOMEONE ELSE (Exodus 3:1-4:17)

Several times God says "I have seen" in this passage. When God is ready to move in our lives, He calls us. How will we answer?

I. GOD CALLS HIS SERVANTS TO JOIN HIM IN HIS WORK (vv. 1-9)

- 1. God may call us when we least expect it.
 - Moses is doing the routine sheep herding he's always done.
 - He works for his father-in-law Jethro in the wilderness of Midian
 - He is in the middle of nowhere near the Mt. Horeb also known as Mt. Sinai
- 2. God chose to get Moses attention.
 - Moses sees a common acacia tree (rugged thorny tree).
 - o It's burning but not being consumed.
 - Fire is used in Scripture as representative of God's presence and holiness.
- 3. God must get our attention before we hear His instructions.
 - He calls Moses by name; so does everyone who enters a relationship with the Lord
 - The one who calls is first identified as the Angel of the Lord but He is referred to specifically in v. 4 as the Lord
- 4. He gives Moses a commission including His motive, His purpose and His plan

II. GOD'S SERVANTS MUST ANSWER IN FAITH (vv. 3:11-4:17)

- 1. Moses responded with five excuses why God has got the wrong guy for this job.
 - He was mostly concerned about himself.
- 2. (#1) I'm a nobody (v. 3:11)
 - He said "who am I?" I am unable to do it.
 - God said "I will go with you."
 - o Don't look at yourself-- look at God!
- 3. (#2) I don't know enough (vv.3:13-15)
 - I don't know enough, have enough experience, etc.
 - A name was personal in Hebrew; it was refection of one's person and character.
 - o God gave Moses His covenant name YHWH.
 - God is self-sufficient: knows past, present, and future. Is every present and all powerful.
 - Then God told Moses to tell them His word
- 4. (#3) They won't believe me (v. 4:1)
 - What will others think about it all-- they will think I am crazy!
 - God gave Moses some signs.
 - o God revealed his power over creation, over people, and over the elements.
- 5. (#4) I can't really talk; I'm not skilled (vv.4:10-12)
 - I don't have the resources.
 - God said I will do it through you!
- 6. (#5) Can't somebody else do it. (v. 4:13)
 - With this one God became angry