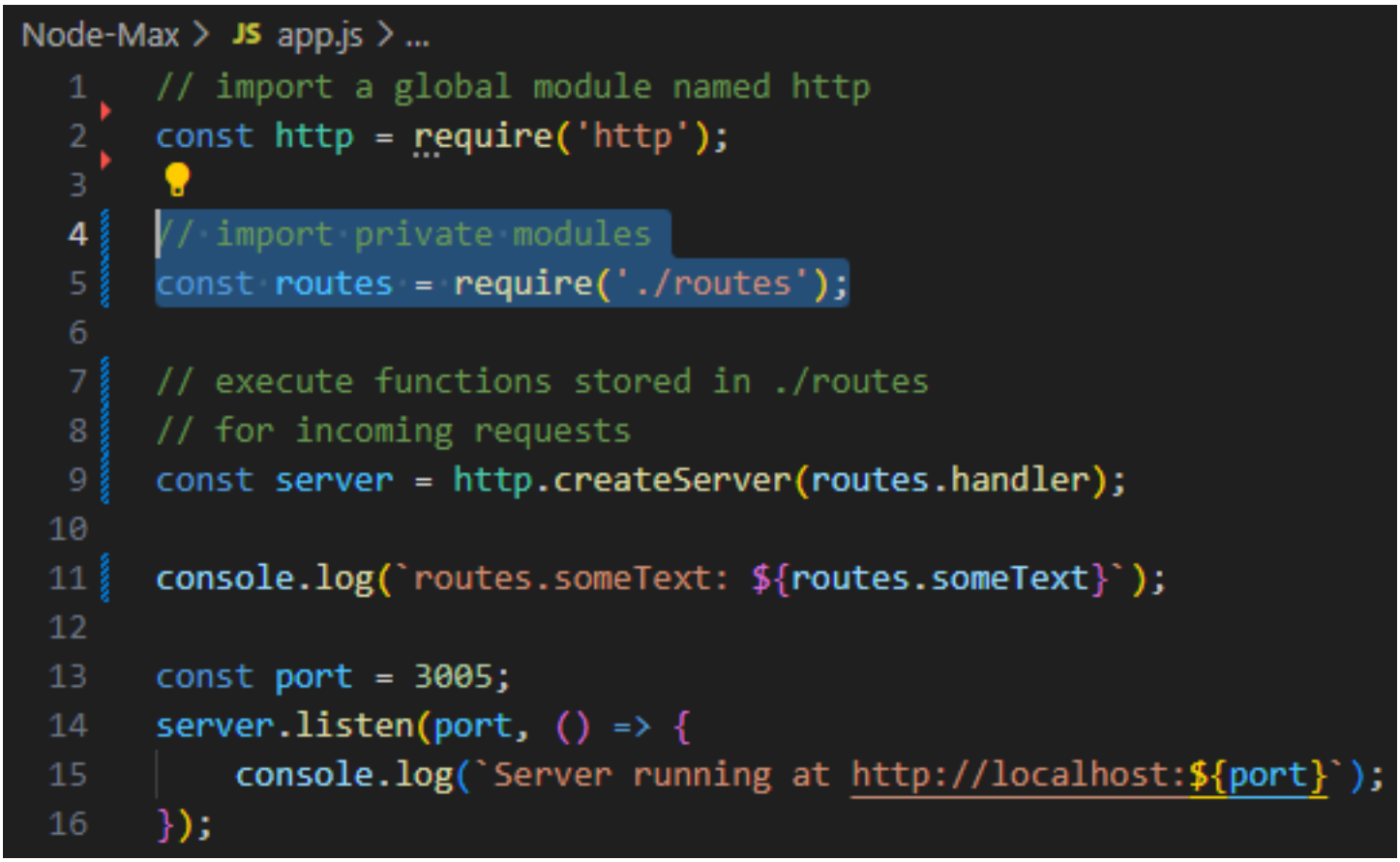
20. Installing Express.js

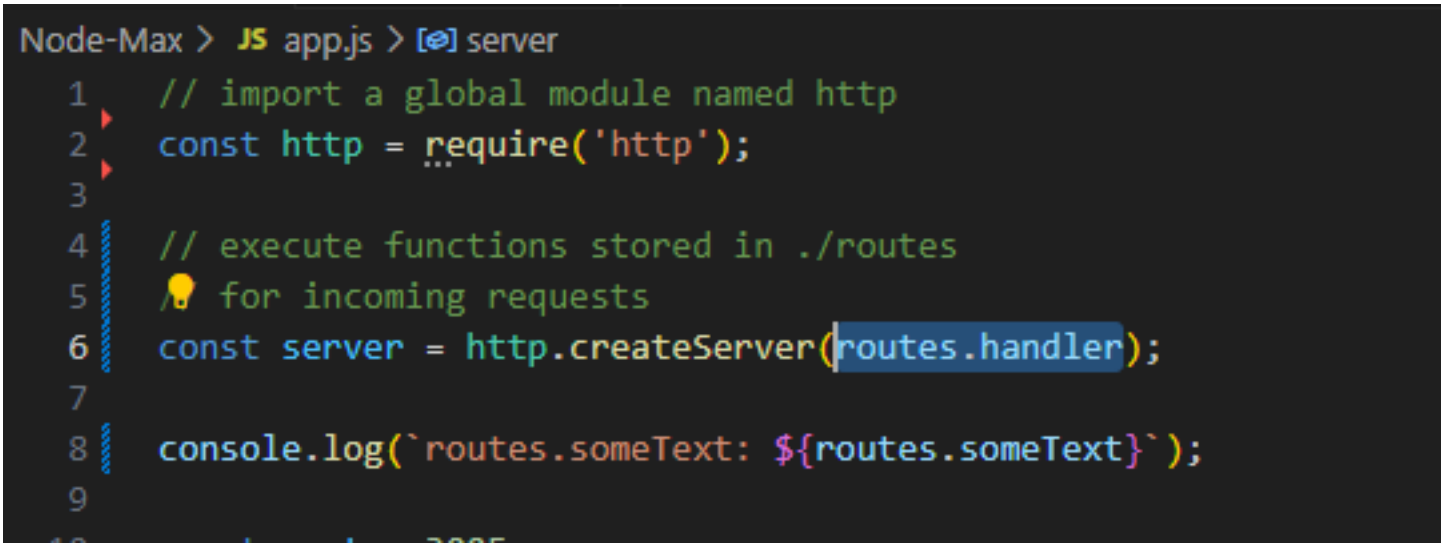
Wednesday, May 29, 2024 11:33 AM

app.js

Remove routes



Also remove routes.handler from http.createServer();



```
10    const port = 3005;
11    server.listen(port, () => {
12        console.log(`Server running at http://localhost:${port}`);
13    });
```

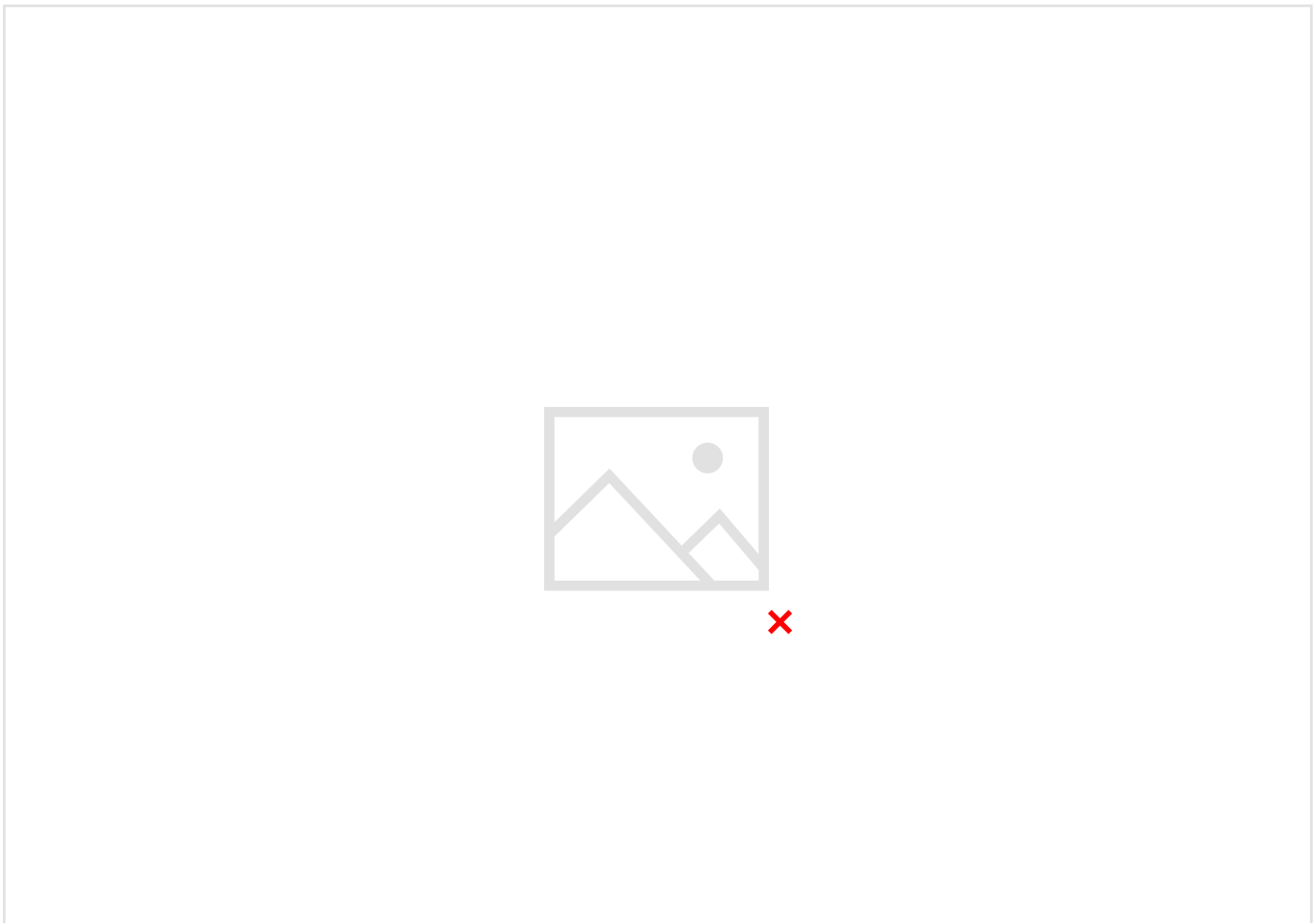
Install Express.js as a Prod dependency

npm install --save express;

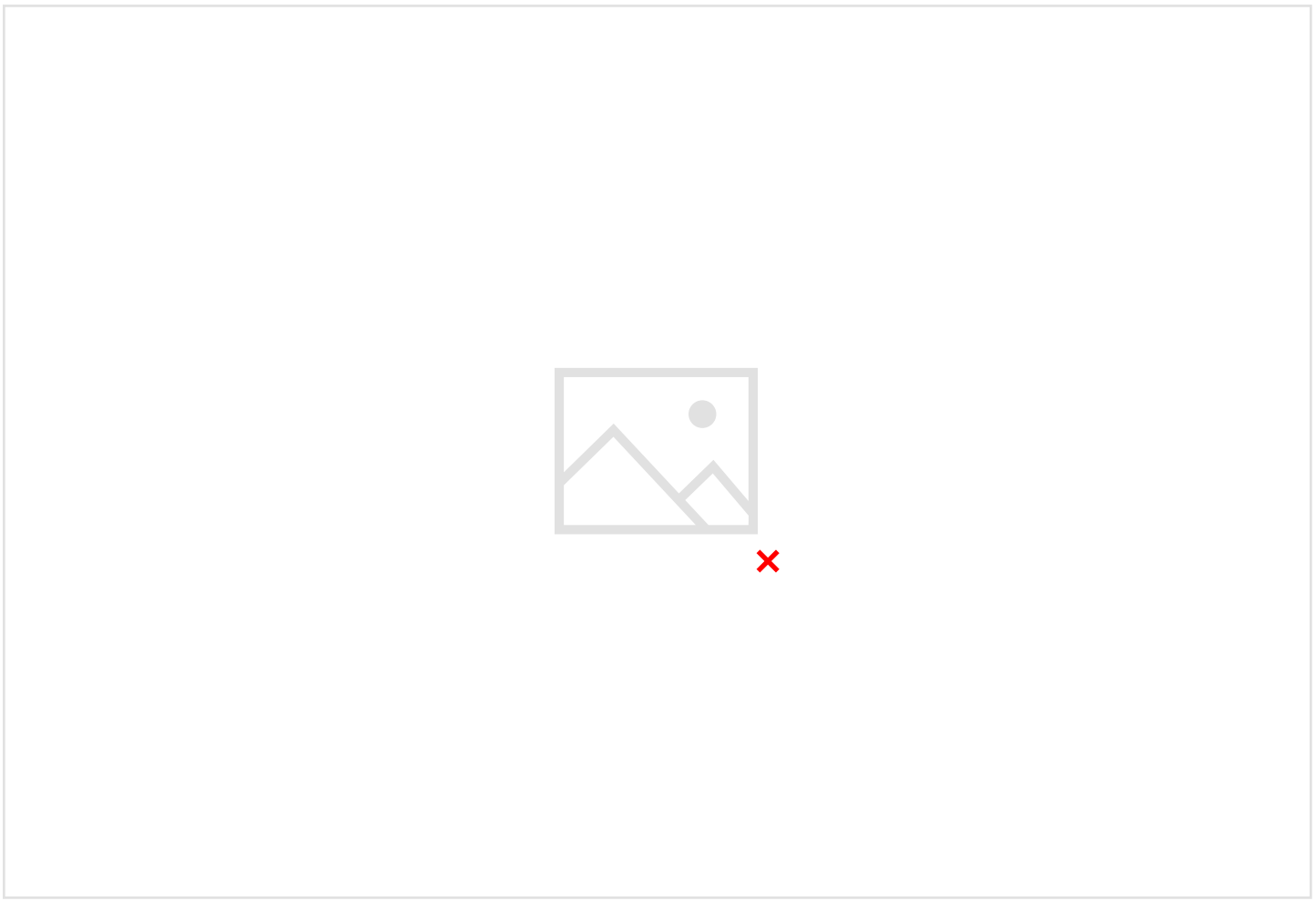
```
$ npm install --save express;

added 70 packages, and audited 102 packages in 29s

17 packages are looking for funding
  run `npm fund` for details

found 0 vulnerabilities
```

We see "express" is now under dependencies

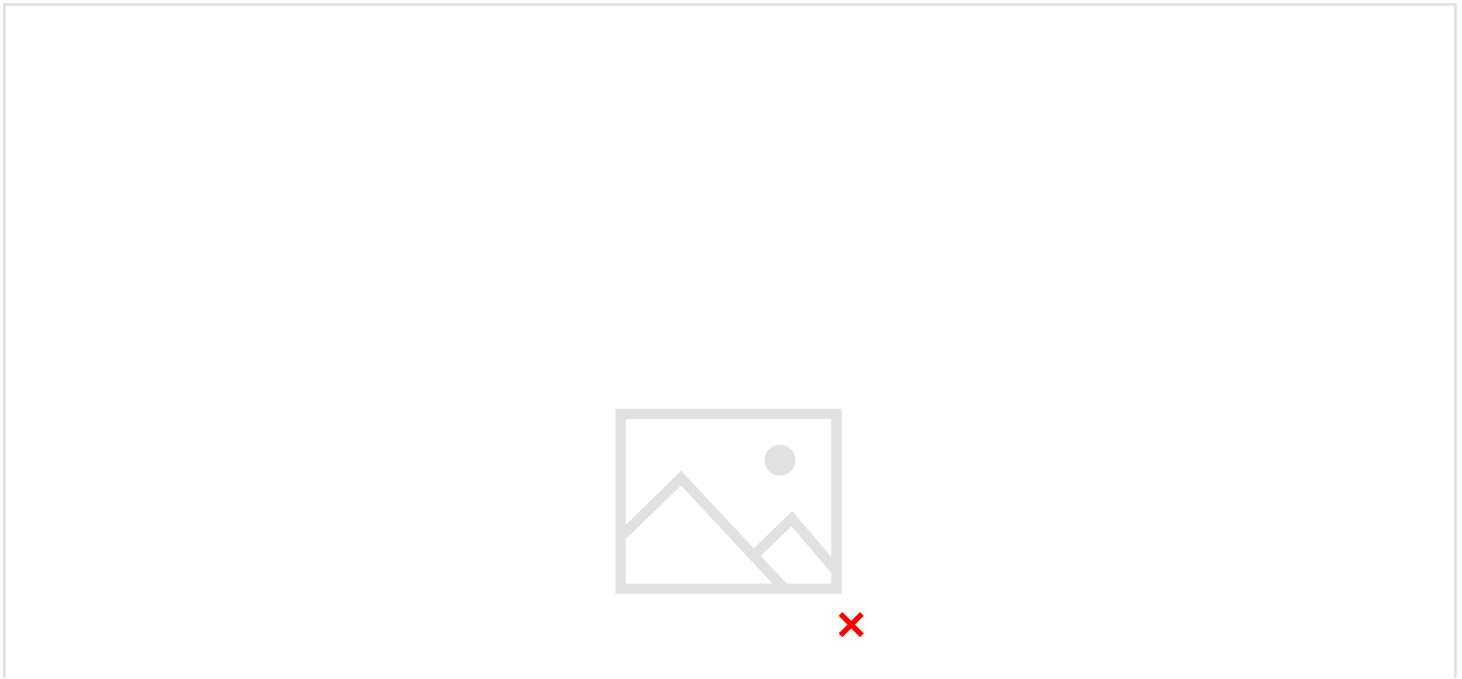
In fact, nodemon should be under "devDependencies" category, I'm just too lazy to fix this nodemon category here ;)



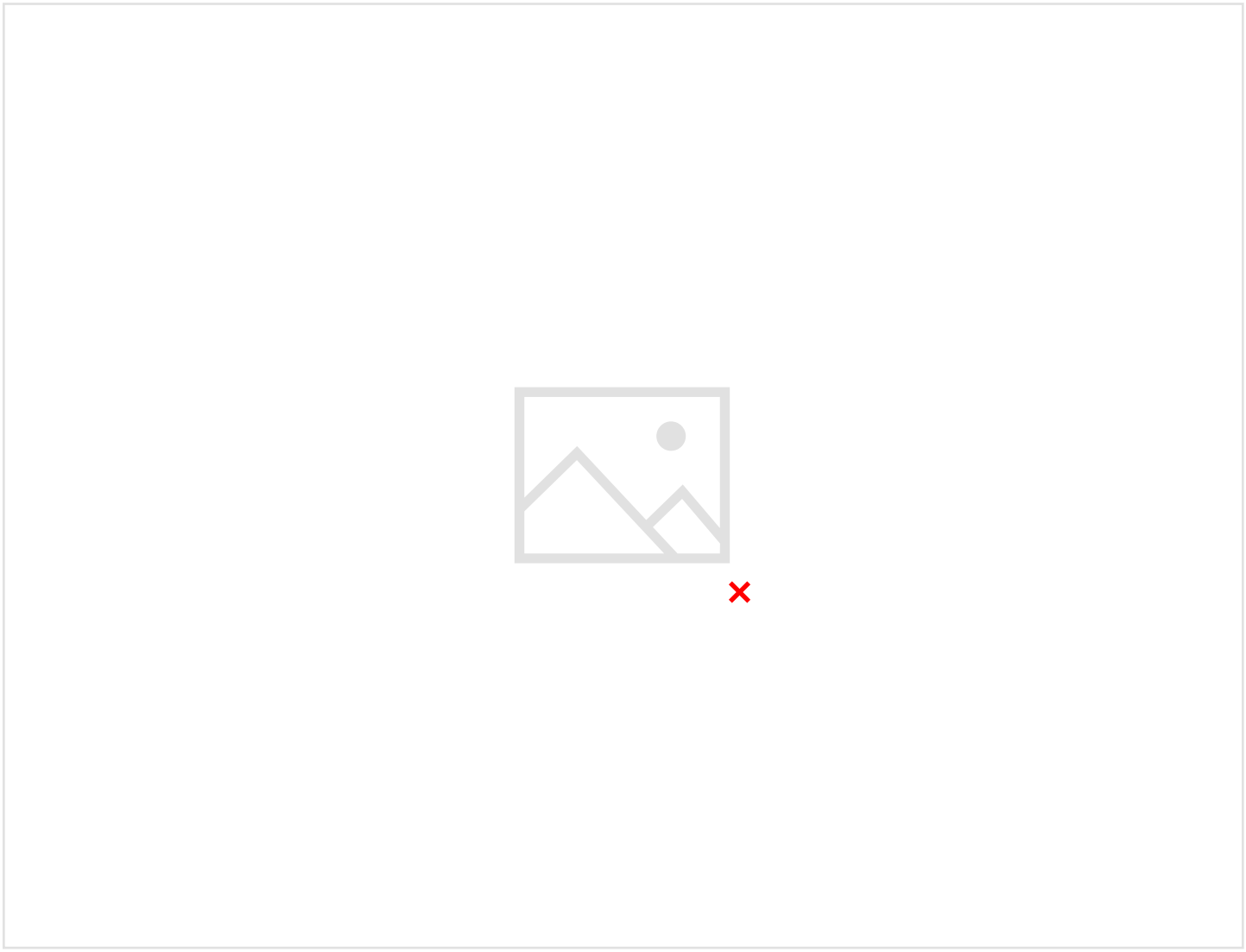
Large numbers of logics are implemented using const **app**



This will create an Express server



Adding Middleware



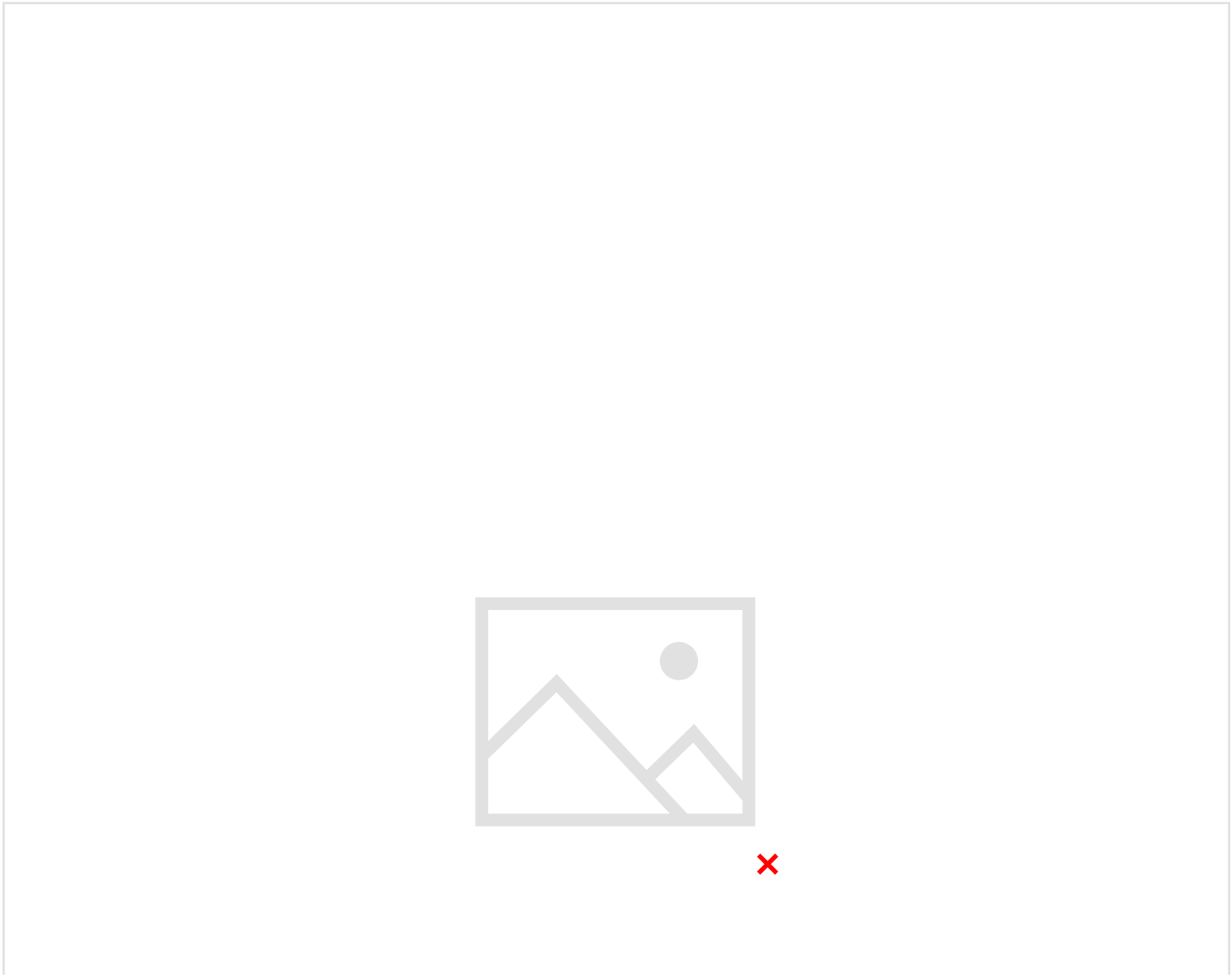
Using Express Middleware

Express middleware design pattern

app.use((req, res, next) => {});

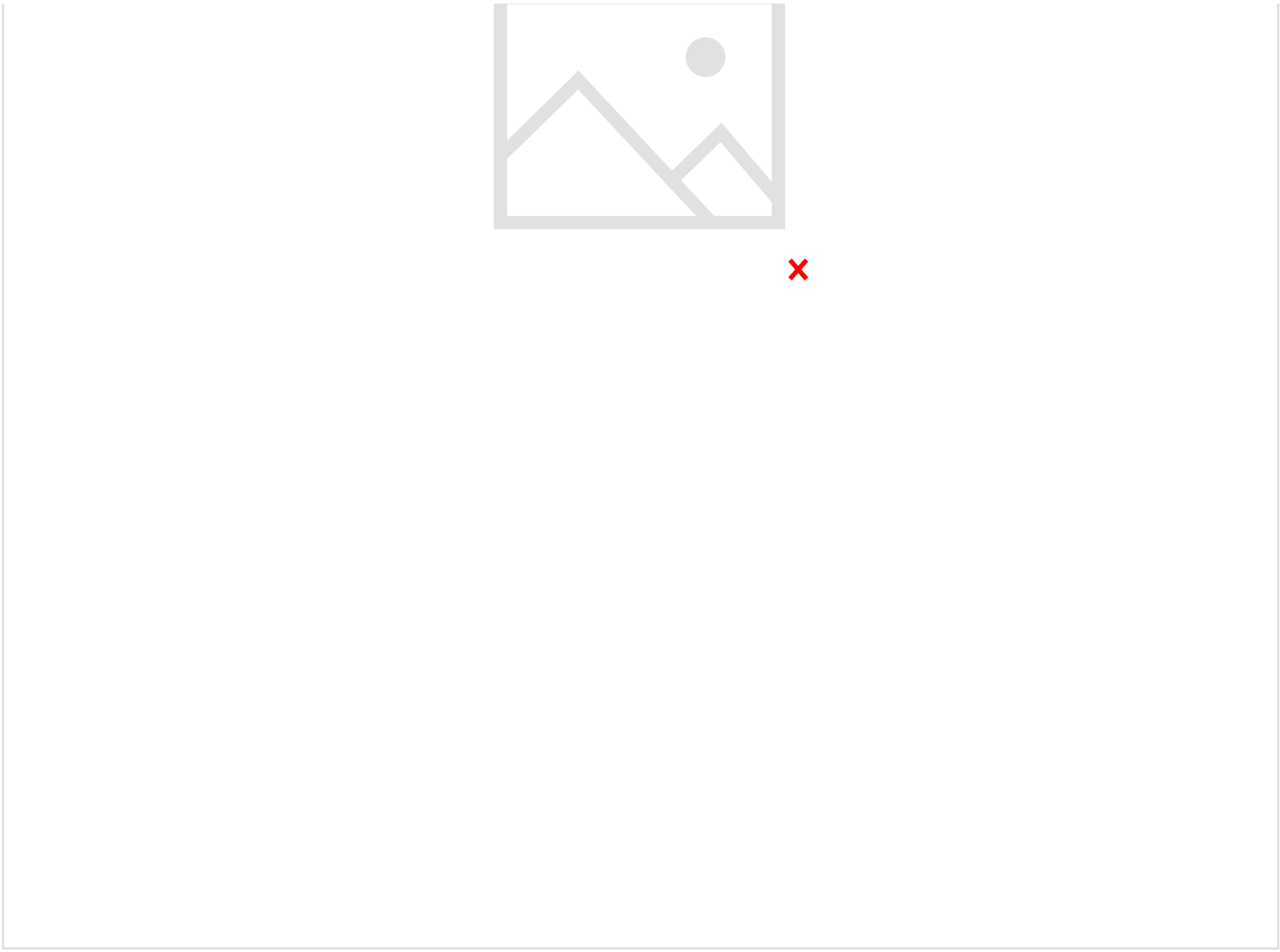
req = HTTP request
res = HTTP response
next = next function to allow the request to travel on the next middleware

We have 2 Middleware now



Nevertheless, we do NOT see 2 middleware in our terminal

Using next() in our 1st Express Middleware function to allow our 1st Express Middleware to travel to the next Middleware



If we do NOT use next() in a Middleware, we MUST send back a response
Otherwise, our Middleware will get stuck & entire Express app will crash

Let's send a HTTP response in our 2nd Middleware

Testing Express app in Browser

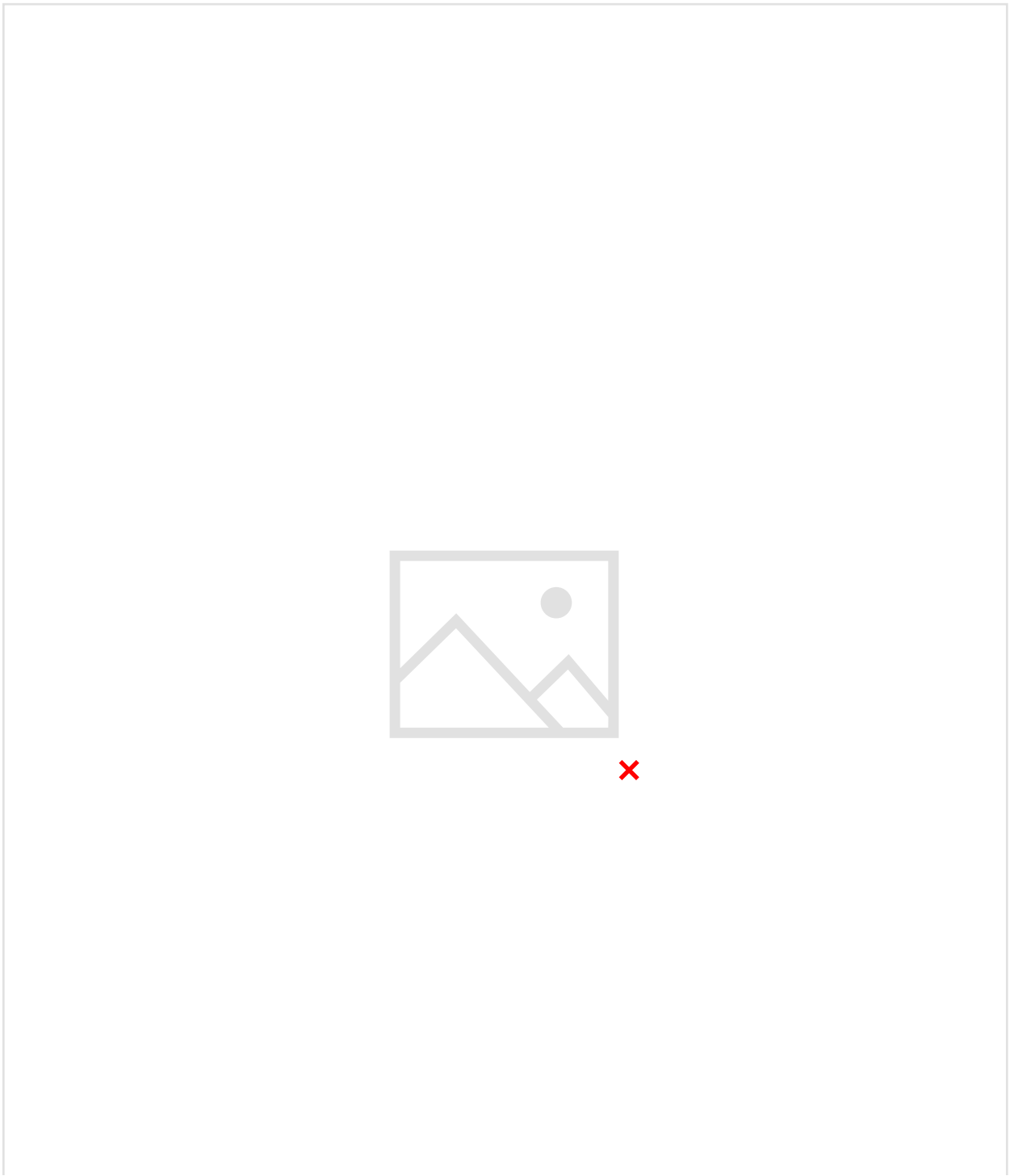
F12 Network Tab

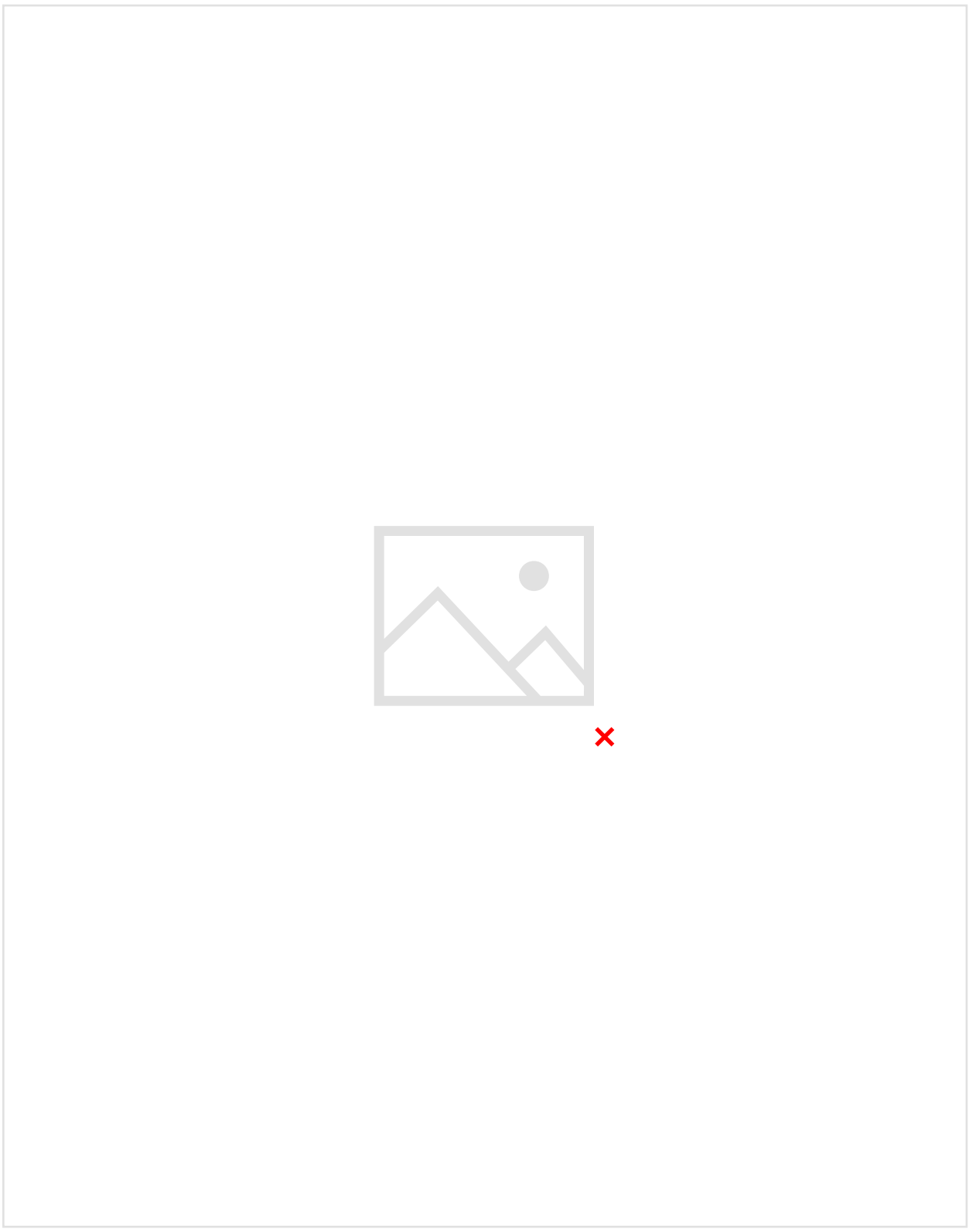
Looking behind the Scenes of Express.js

Express github

express/lib/response.js

express.js response.js module checks for the data type of data chunks





instead of
const server = http.createServer(app);

server.listen(port);

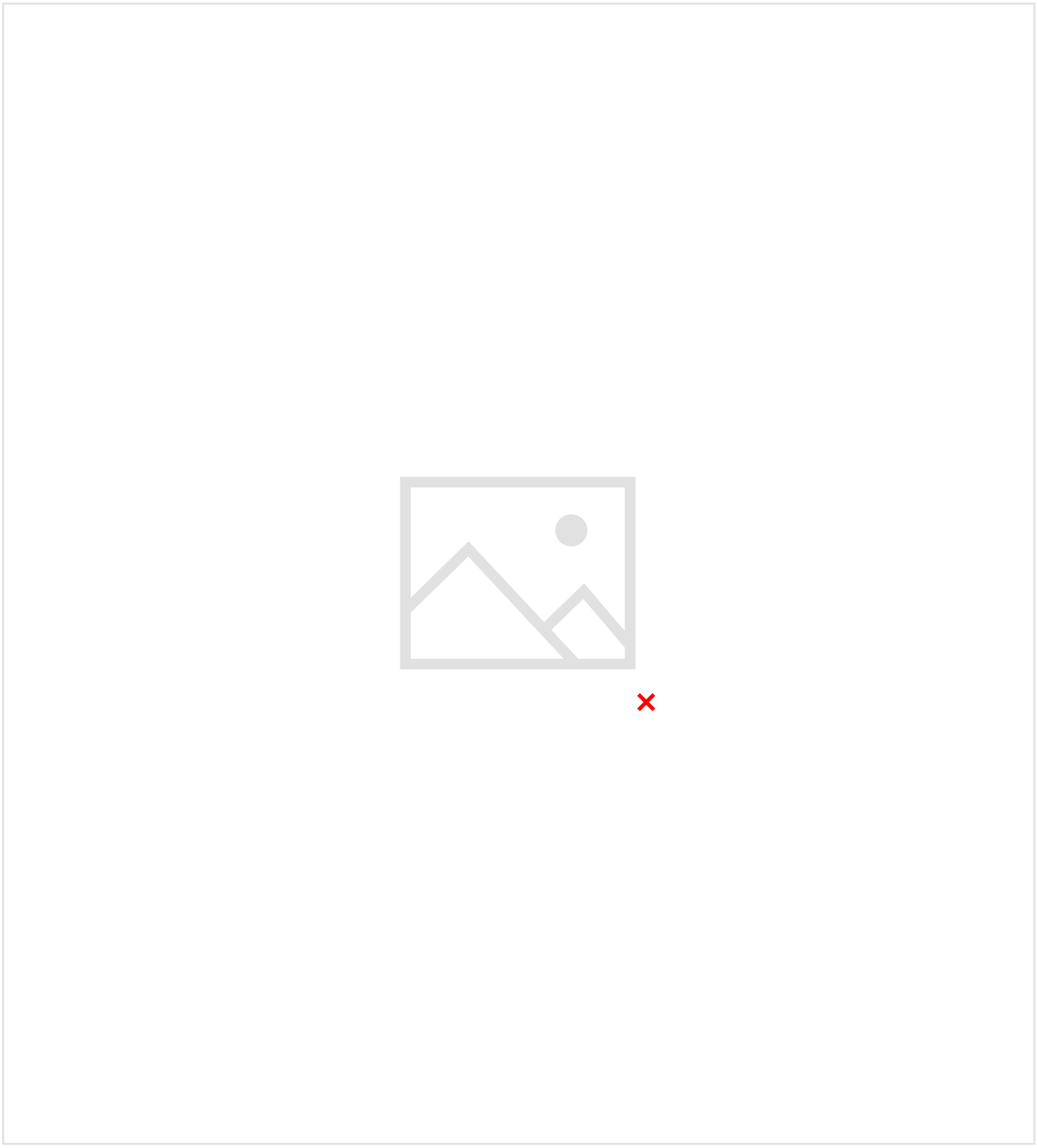
In fact, Express already handled this in application.js of Express Module
const server = http.createServer();

we can use **app.listen()**

Handling different Routes

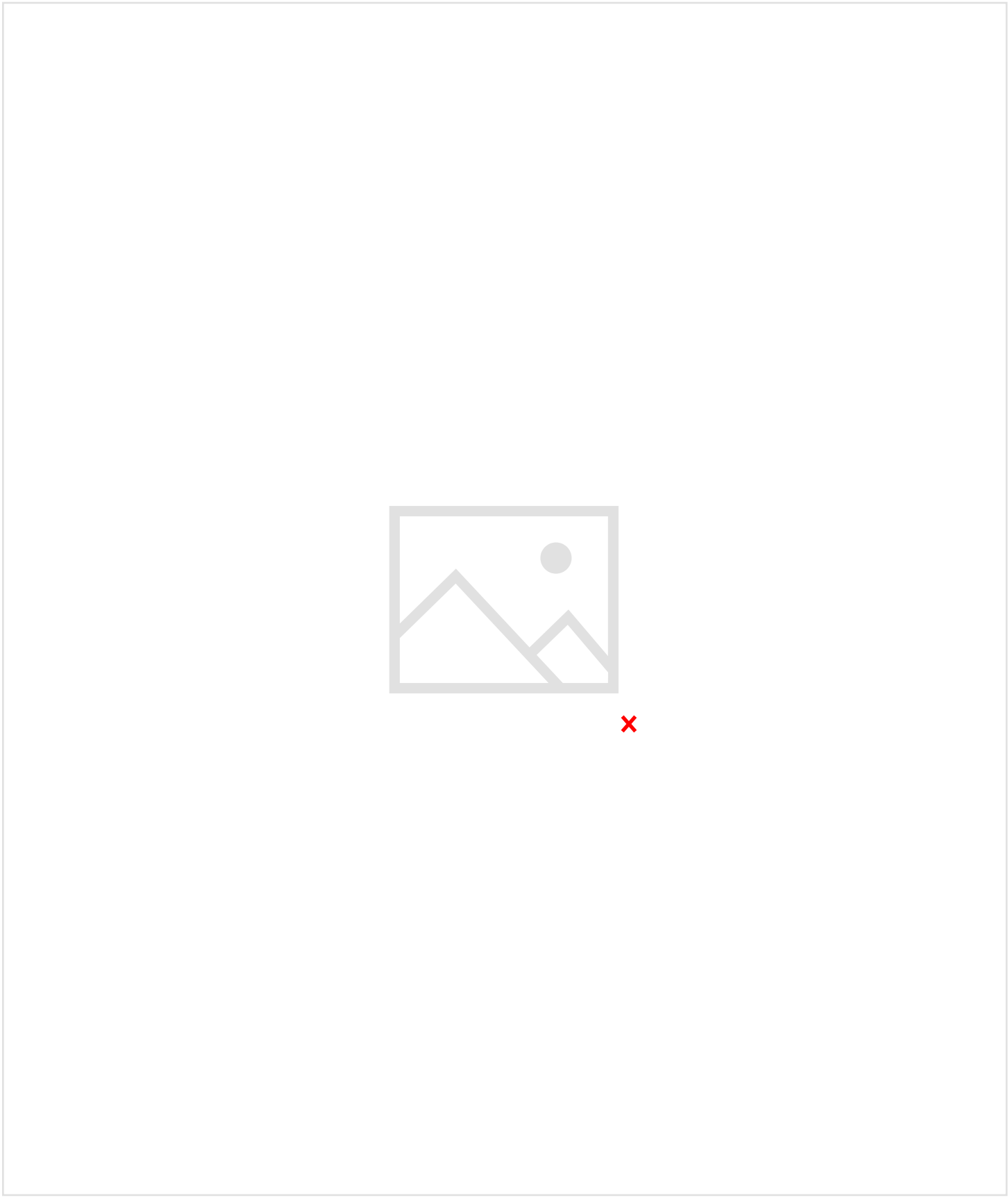
See Express documentation

Adding an Express route for '/'



It will be inappropriate to add
res.send()
next()

Because a middleware ends with a Response & should no longer do other actions



We should ensure that responses are NOT sent multiple times

inside an Express middleware

The appropriate way of using an Express middleware without sending back a Response