

WILDERNESS WANDERERS v POSSESSING PEOPLE

Message #1: “Embracing Change”

Intro – I’m very excited to share with you a series of messages that first came to me a little over a year ago. At that time I wasn’t even the pastor yet, and was only periodically speaking. I shared the first message (which we are revisiting today) but didn’t speak again for several weeks. So, I tucked this series away in my heart until the right time. About a month ago I sensed that NOW was the right time to share this series of “prophetic words” for our church. I believe, that when taken together, they will launch us into God’s next phase for us – a time of possessing His promises for us!

Deuteronomy 2:3(NASB) / Joshua 3:3b(NIV) – “YOU HAVE CIRCLED THIS MOUNTAIN LONG ENOUGH. NOW TURN NORTH. / “...YOU HAVE NEVER BEEN THIS WAY BEFORE.”

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Joshua 1:1-3 – “After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua ... MOSES ... IS DEAD. NOW THEN ... GET READY to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them – to the Israelites. I will give you every place upon which you set your foot...”

1. CHANGE IS SCARY

- GREATEST FEAR AMONG 71% OF AMERICAN PERSONALITY STYLES
- WE LIKE FAMILIARITY, BUT MUST EMBRACE CHANGE

Further Discussion:

1. Give examples from life in general where change is scary?
2. Why is change so greatly feared and so hard to embrace?

2. CHANGE REQUIRES CONSTANT ADJUSTMENT AND WORK

- ADJUSTMENTS: FRESH MOVE OF SPIRIT / CULTURALLY FRESH
- RUT: GRAVE WITH BOTH ENDS DUG OUT

Further Discussion:

3. Give examples from life in general where change requires adjustment?
4. What adjustments Spiritually will we have to make? (Explain & Expound)
5. What is meant by “a rut is simply a grave with both ends dug out”?

3. CHANGE THAT WON’T VIOLATE THE UNCHANGEABLE, BUT...

Malachi 3:6 – “I the Lord do not change.”

- SALVATION ... WORSHIP ... RELATIONSHIPS

Further Discussion:

6. In the above bullet, what doesn’t change, and what does change?

4. CHANGE ALLOWS US TO GO FORWARD

- **MOSES COULDN'T GO IN, SO CLINGING TO MOSES MEANT DYING IN THE WILDERNESS**
- **THE QUOTE OF DYING CHURCHES – “WE’VE NEVER DONE IT THIS WAY BEFORE”**

Further Discussion:

7. **Expound upon this point and how it applies to us at Valleyview?**

5. CHANGE REQUIRES A CHOICE

- **STOP CIRCLING & TURN NORTH ... MOSES IS DEAD / EMBRACE JOSHUA**
- **NEW PERSON / NEW WAY**
- **WE WILL EMBRACE – YOUR MOVE LORD**

Further Discussion:

8. **What difficult choices did the Israelites have to make?**
9. **What was the alternative to not making these choices?**

Philippians 3:13-14 – “I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: FORGETTING WHAT IS BEHIND and STRAINING TOWARD WHAT IS AHEAD, I PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL.”