Saying Yes to God

~Things That Hold us Back~ Fear of Change

1. Fear of Change

- Pharisees

- Rich Man in Mark 10:17-27

- Israelites in the desert

Exodus 14:10-14 As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up and there were Egyptians marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, "Was this because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die?"

"What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt? Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians?' It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"

Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for youyou need only to be still."

Exodus 14:15-16 "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go though the sea on dry land."

Exodus 16:3 "If only we had died by the Lord's hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted. But you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death."

Most common reasons people fear change

Loss of control Uncertainty **Negative past experiences Comfort in routine** Fear of Failure **Ripple Effects**

1. Things Change

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, A time to mourn and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

2. God and His Word remain the same

Malachi 3:6 I am the Lord; I change not.

Hebrews 1:10-12 You Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.

Psalm 119:89 Forever O lord, Your word is settled in Heaven.

3. Change isn't a bad thing.

Hebrews 12:26-27 At that time His voice shook the earth but now he has promised, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." The words "once more" indicate the removing of what can be shaken- that is, created things- so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

We need to be willing to let things be shaken loose.

1. Things of this world will change.
(And we can't control it.)

2. God and His word are unchanging.

3. Change isn't a bad thing. Be willing to let things be shaken loose.