

From Sea to See From Desert to Destiny

“Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.’”

Matthew 4:1-3 (NIV)

- **Loyalty promotes an obedient life**
- **Sacrifice prompts a teachable spirit**

“The Lord said, ‘I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey — the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.’”

Exodus 3:7-8 (NIV)

We have Community Groups throughout the Denver Metro Area. You may find a listing of these groups online at <http://www.fbc.org/faith-bible-chapel-ministries/community-groups>. For more information or questions, please contact Ceely Ann Lonergan at 303.424.2121, ext. 92407 or ceelyann.lonergan@fbc.org.

**Please feel free to come down to the front
for prayer after service.**

“...pray for one another...” James 5:16

Why would God take you somewhere you have never been before to endure things that are hard to understand, and even feel cruel?

1. Desert experiences are designed by God to lead you to revelation of God, His will, and to self discovery

Desert: any place lacking in something

"You must obey all the commandments I give you today. If you do, you will not only live, you will multiply and will go in and take over the land promised to your fathers by the Lord. Do you remember how the Lord led you through the wilderness for all those forty years, humbling you and testing you to find out how you would respond, and whether or not you would really obey him?" Deuteronomy 8:1-2 (TLB)

How do you generally respond to a desert experience?

I don't need it I'm tired of it I accept it

2. You must confront the fear of change

"As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, 'Was it 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 you; you need only to be still.'"

Exodus 14:10-14 (NIV)

What is Metathesiophobia?

Defined as "a persistent, abnormal, and unwarranted fear of changes;" each year this surprisingly common phobia causes countless people needless distress

Known by a number of names – *Metathesiophobia* and *Fear of*

Change being the most common - the problem often significantly impacts the quality of life

Release: "To let loose again; to set free from restraint, confinement, or servitude; to give liberty to, or to set at liberty; to let go."

Rate your ability to rest and rely on God 1 2 3 4 5

3. Change will move you from an experience to enlightenment

4. Your predicament is God's possibility

"When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter. For God said, 'If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt.' So God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of Egypt armed for battle." Exodus 13:17-18 (NIV)

- **It takes tight places to break lifetime habits**
- **With no options, look up**
- **If God is to get the glory, He must do the fighting**

When was the last time you worked hard to be alone; how do you ensure it happens? _____
