

## **FIVE ENEMIES OF CHANGE**

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Seasons change; times change; nations change; and technology changes. In our personal lives, our marriages, ministries, and financial situations – there is a need for change. Although God never changes, He is constantly moving His church toward perfection from glory to glory. We must be led by the Holy Spirit and sense His moving us on to the next level from faith to faith and glory to glory.

God is in the process of changing us into His image. Because He is so different from us, it takes us years to recognize all that needs to change within us to make us more like Him. Pressure brings change. That is why He allows us to go through pressure and difficult circumstances.

### **MEET YOUR ENEMIES**

#### **1. Tradition: “...the glory that was.”**

2 Corinthians 3:7-11

God moves in certain ways and gives us certain manifestations of His glory. Instead of rejoicing in that and getting ready for the next aspect of glory, we like to stop and camp by the glory that was. The seven most dangerous words for you to say are: WE’VE NEVER DONE IT THIS WAY BEFORE. Jesus said that human nature does not like new wine but tends to say: THE OLD IS BETTER (Luke 5:39).

#### **2. Fear: “You have not passed this way before.”**

Joshua 3:4

Joshua had to encourage the people to pass through the Jordan River. It was a new path, a new method, and a new leader. The fear of the unknown and the fear of failure keep many people paralyzed. It takes guts to come out of the ruts!

#### **3. Laziness: “Whenever the cloud lifted, they set out.”**

Numbers 9:19-22

The glory cloud moved almost at whim. Two days, a month, or a year . . . Israel could never settle down in the desert because God could direct the cloud to move at any time. We often would like to settle down and not have to move, but God doesn’t work like that.

#### **4. Stubbornness: “...nevertheless, some...went out.”**

Exodus 16:26-29

Israel was told not to gather manna on the seventh day. However, some people still got up as usual and went out for their manna. We are creatures of habit (stubborn), and it can get in the way of God’s blessings in our lives.

#### **5. Pride: “There is none besides me.”**

Isaiah 47:8

A final enemy to change is the idea that we have “arrived.” However, the goal of God’s dealings in our lives is to constantly change us into His image, because we fall short of His glory. Satan had the idea of the perfection of beauty and called himself, “I am.” God, however, is the only “I AM.” That means that He never changes, but we are constantly in the process of becoming.