

Change for the Better

1Samuel 10:6 (NIV) The Spirit of the LORD will come upon you in power, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be *changed* into a different person.

Change is uncomfortable at first, but produces fruit later. It is easy to want to stay the same, but life is changing all around us whether we want it to or not. When a person becomes truly born again they are changed on the inside which in turn, affects change on the outside. If a person professes to be a believer but their life has not changed, they have not truly become a Christian.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 NKJV I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. [27] I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

How to make change in your life for the better:

1. **Be open to change.** A study on human behavior concluded that only 5% of the population are willing to change. Be committed to growing and changing for the rest of your life. “When you are green, you are growing and when you are ripe, you rot.” Keep growing!
2. **Change what God tells you to change.** When confronted with a truth from God’s Word, one person responded, “I don’t believe that.” What they really meant was they wanted to do things their way, not God’s. They weren’t willing to change.
3. **Trust God.** The future will not be like the past. Be flexible in His hands.
4. **Realize that Changing is not an option**

A. Life around us will change whether we want it to or not

Businesses who are not willing to change and adapt get stuck in a Paradigm shift. The world around them changes, but their way of doing business does not! That’s why many go bankrupt.

Marriages can go through the same dynamics. People get stuck in their stubbornness and unwillingness meet their spouses needs often destroy the relationship.

Churches become rigid in a system of practice and belief. It becomes religion instead of fresh and vibrant. “Lord, please keep up pliable”

B. God wants to make our hearts more like his.

C. Change can be quite good.

- i. **Change stretches you.**
- ii. **Change challenges you to grow through the trials and tribulations of life.**
- iii. **Change keeps you from getting bored and stuck in your ways**

Romans 12:1-2 (Amplified) I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, *and* beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service *and* spiritual worship.

2 Do not be conformed to this world (this age), [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs], but be transformed (changed) by the [entire] renewal of your mind [by its new ideals and its new attitude], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God, *even* the thing which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His sight for you].