



CHANGE

by Whitney Davis

Change. What a word! Some people love change, and some resist it like the plague. Change challenges our sense of control and causes us to adapt to the newness it brings. Sometimes we want the change that occurs, and sometimes it's forced upon us. One thing is for sure; we can't avoid change. One noticeable change we all experience is Summer turning to Fall. We notice the leaves turning orange and red, a cool crisp in the air, pumpkin spice everything all around, and mums adorned on porches. Whether you are a person that thrives when things change or would prefer to keep things status quo, there are lessons for all of us to learn as we think about change in our life.

1.) CHANGE WILL HAPPEN

"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." Genesis 8:2

We see here in Genesis that change is part of the makeup of creation; therefore, it has always existed. We must learn to accept some truths in life; for example, there are things we cannot control, and change is one of them. The sun rises and falls, seasons change, and we grow and change. Humans are driven by a selfish, sinful nature that often seeks control. It can be difficult for many women to deal with change in their life, especially when it's painful, challenges them, or is not desired. Since change is inevitable, we must evaluate our response to change instead of wishing it away.

2.) JESUS DOES NOT CHANGE

“For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O son of David”

Malachai 3:6

One of the most comforting truths for the believer in Christ is that Jesus does not change. Even when the world around us seems to be moving forward rapidly, spinning out of control, we serve an unchanging God. Our God is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb 13:8). The One who flung the stars in the sky and created a world that would progress through change never changes. He is faithful and true. This scripture in Malachi offers us such hope! We have a promise in Christ- because He does not change, the challenges we face will not consume us.

3.) CHANGE DEVELOPS OUR CHARACTER

“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character, and hope.” Romans 5:1-4

Although we are often resistant to change, there is one change we should celebrate continually- the transformation we experience through Jesus Christ. Because of the saving grace of Jesus, we are justified through faith and made righteous. He changes our heart of stone to a heart of flesh, and we bear His image. He makes us more like Himself and refines us through our faith journey. Our challenges and suffering produce character in us so that we reveal His

glory- and people find hope and salvation when His glory is displayed. The changes we experience in life work not only for our good but for the benefit of all.

Instead of wanting to avoid and fight against change, our perspective must be fixed on how we respond to change. Embracing the beauty of serving an unchanging, faithful God amid our challenges must be a priority. Surrendering our sense of control and being teachable in the change process will refine us for the better. The Lord produces perseverance and grows our character during the change we encounter. Don't miss the opportunity to experience growth when confronted with change. Jesus is with you and right beside you on the journey. Change is good.





CONVERSATION STARTERS:

- 1.) Talk about a change you have recently encountered. What was your response to this change?
- 2.) Do you like change? Discuss why or why not?
- 3.) What is one thing you found true of Jesus when you've experienced challenging change?
- 4.) Share about a time when a difficult change was needed and improved your life.

CALL TO ACTION:

- 1.) Spend time reflecting and journaling about times you've experienced a change in your life and what you have learned through those seasons.
- 2.) Reach out to someone you know who is experiencing a season of change and offer encouragement, prayer, and support to them.

Commit to approaching change as a growth opportunity in your life.

MEMORIZE: "For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O son of David"
Malachai 3:6

