

INSPIRATIONAL MOMENT #2-75

Thought: What About Change and the Church?

Scripture: Malachi:3:6

For I am the Lord, I change not;..... -

Change is the one constant in our lives; it's always there. Each day we're a little older, something new, something different. Whether we like it, whether we receive it, change comes every day. In the book *Vision America* (1994 ed, Baker Books) by Audrey Malphurs, he talks about the society and culture that we now live in. He calls it a time of "Mega change". Think about it. Reflect on the changes that has taken place in your life time. CD's, DVD's, Digital TV, talking cars, you name it, change is everywhere. What about the church? First we know from the scripture, that God never changes. So, the foundation on which we stand is the solid rock of Jesus Christ the Son of the Living God and that will never change. While society, people, cultures, what we like and don't like change as time goes by, God will remain the same.

Because we know that God desires that none be lost, we must reach the people of each generation with the message of Jesus Christ. The people of this generation are different from those of our fathers and their fathers. We don't have to walk everywhere. We can drive, fly, or get the word to them by way of the computer. We have a new way of communicating, a new way of getting people's attention in this generation. What about the church? The church must change. The church of yesterday will not survive in this new millennium if they do not embrace change. Why? Because the church is made up of people; people that were born in this generation; in this culture, in this society, in this time of "Mega change".

To this generation change is reality, it's all they know. The church must continue its mission to save the lost. To reach this generation we must carry the message of Jesus Christ in a way that this generation can hear and understand. We must allow ourselves to yield to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and stand on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. Change will come, but we can move the church forward riding on the wave of this change. Lifting the name of Jesus, not the way Momma did it, not the way Daddy did it, but the way God would have us do it now, right now, this day, so we can reach the souls of this generation.

I challenge you; look at what you're doing in your church. Ask yourself the questions: How can I magnify the Lord? How can I embrace this change that God allowed, and give God the glory? How can I let my light shine that others see Christ in me?

Unless the traditional churches step up to the plate and begin to witness to this generation, that church will die. When death comes and claims one member, no new members come to that church. Children grow up and leave, then you're left with a core group of people holding on to the old ways of doing things. While change for change sake is not good, change with a purpose, change to project Jesus Christ to a dying world, is the change we should all have. We were not saved to keep this Jesus to ourselves. We were saved to let the World know Jesus lives. He lives in me, he's my Father.

I challenge you, don't be afraid to do things differently. Don't be afraid to embrace change. God already knows, He's already there to be the strength you need. Church what are you doing? Are you lifting Jesus up to this dying World? He's our God, and He's right by our side.

Prayer: Jesus, help this thy people to reach out to those around them without fear, without hesitation, knowing Lord you are already there. No matter the change, no matter the uncertainty, help us realize you will see us through it all. Help us leave by the wayside the old way of doing things. Help us embrace the new, unafraid because we trust you, knowing you will bring us through. Yes Lord, we desire that none be lost. Help us step up to the plate asking the question what I can do to help save the lost. Lord, help me do my part trusting always in you. Amen