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Essay

### “The Importance of Change”

Per Frederick Douglass, “If there is no struggle, there is no progress.” Robin Sharma says, “Change is hard at first, messy in the middle, and gorgeous at the end.” Both of these people are referencing the subject of change. This is one of the most-feared subjects in the world today because it eliminates the old and comfortable and brings in the new and unfamiliar. Change is uncomfortable, and at times even terrifying, but it is so very important to life. It keeps humans on their toes and makes them better people if they do it correctly. Change is especially important in the family life, the spiritual walk, and the societal advance.

The family life is one area of life where change is especially important. Children must change their patterns of disobedience or their parents will not trust them. However, if their parents do see them changing and becoming more obedient and less selfish, they will earn more respect and privileges. Change also helps relationships between spouses. Everyone is naturally selfish, if one spouse is selfish while the other one is self-less, that relationship will not will not work out until there is a change. Conversely, changing for a spouse shows love towards him or her which will help improve a relationship as love is the main part of any relationship. Changing problems in a relationship also gives children a good example to follow. Parents are to be an example to their children, that they might grow up and follow it. Children will follow what they see at home. If parents want their children to follow God, they

must set the example. One way they can do this is by showing the importance of change by changing themselves. The family life is one area that requires a great amount of change.

The spiritual walk is the most important aspect of life where change is of great importance. Man without Christ is a sinful, wretched, unholy creature who has spat in the face of a holy God. Only by trusting in His Son can man be redeemed from his sins and please God. God commands sanctification, the process of becoming more and more like Christ and less and less like the world, from His children. For a Christian, this is a natural process. A true Christian will see some level of change in his life, as he does not as much as he used to, and when he does, he feels remorse. In fact, if someone claiming the name of Christ does not see change, he will not have full assurance of his salvation. The Bible clearly states that true Christians will see some level of change. Finally, a genuine change will present itself to unsaved people. As a Christian becomes like Christ he will become less like the world. The world will notice these peculiar changes and realize something is different, even if they do not know what it is. This is a perfect opportunity for a Christian to share Christ with an unsaved person. The spiritual walk is surely the most important area where change is important.

The final aspect of life where change is important is the societal advance. Society is constantly changing, and it is a Christian's duty to respond in a Biblical way. The Bible tells the Christian to conform to Christ, and not the world. However, for that Christian to have an effective ministry, he must be wise enough understand that changes are taking place, and respond by engaging the culture to help himself better understand how to effectively share the gospel. If he does not do this, his witness for Christ could be hindered. If he stubbornly refuses to change how he shares the gospel, people might ignore the message or not understand it. He might have good intentions, but an effective ministry requires some amount of change. Ignoring all spiritual applications, a person cannot be successful in this world unless he understands that it is changing and tries to change with it. Technology, for example, is beginning to be incorporated into virtually every aspect of the workplace. If someone stubbornly refuses to learn

some technology, he could get fired from his job, or be significantly behind his co-workers who have adapted to it. The societal advance is one last aspect of life where change is necessary.

The family life, the spiritual walk, and the societal advance are the areas of life where change is important. It can be terrifying, but change is almost always worth any hardships. "Change is hard at first, messy in the middle, and gorgeous at the end."