

"You can't learn about life in a playpen."

GROWTH

Everybody wants to be somebody; nobody wants to grow.
—Johann W. von Goethe (1749–1832)
(Every man must do his own growing, no matter how tall his grandfather was.)

If the shoe fits, you're not allowing for growth.
—Robert N. Coons

Economic growth is not only unnecessary, but ruinous.
—Alexander I. Solzhenitsyn

Growth is the only evidence of life.
—John Henry, Cardinal Newman (1801–1890)

Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of the cancer cell.
—Edward Abbey

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING TO?

Many might have attained wisdom had they not thought that they had already attained it. A criminal is nothing else but you and me at our weakest, found out. Seems as if some people grow with responsibility - others just swell. Every man I meet is in some way my superior; and in that I can learn from him. The more you know, the more you know you don't know. The greatest friend of truth is time, and her constant companion is humility. When you hear that someone has gossiped of you, kindly repay that he did not know the result of your faults or he would not have mentioned only these.

Today I receive and share the gift of new good.
IN THE MIDST OF CHANGE I AM STEADY,
STRONG, AND SECURE.



Change

When I meet change in my life, I turn to the Spirit of God within for guidance, courage, and strength. When my faith is firmly anchored in God, I can find it in my heart to actually welcome change. I trust God to help me translate change into a blessing.

In every change I acknowledge that God is leading me out of well-worn trails onto broad and spacious highways. God is showing me the way to new and greater opportunities.

God is constant in a changing world. I hold to this truth and let it strengthen my faith, so that I become a source of stability to those around me. I am constantly aware of God's guiding light and encompassing love; good manifests itself in my life and world.

*God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the
earth should change.*

—Psalms 46:1-2

“We must be fond of this world, even in order to change it.”

G.K. Chesterton
(1874–1936)
Orthodoxy

*All that matters
is that one is
created anew.*

GALATIANS 6:15

STEPS TO MATURITY

Maturity is the ability to handle frustration, control anger, and settle differences without violence or destruction.

Maturity is patience. It is the willingness to postpone gratification, to pass up the immediate pleasure or profit in favor of the long term gain.

Maturity is perseverance, sweating out a project or situation in spite of opposition and discouraging setbacks.

Maturity is unselfishness, responding to the needs of others.

Maturity is the capacity to face unpleasantness and disappointment without becoming bitter.

Maturity is the gift of remaining calm in the face of chaos. This means peace, not only for ourselves, but for those with whom we live and for those whose lives touch ours.

Maturity is the ability to disagree without being disagreeable.

Maturity is humility. A mature person is able to say "I was wrong". He is also able to say "I am sorry". And when he is proven right, does not have to say, "I told you so".

Maturity is the ability to make a decision, to act on that decision, and accept full responsibility for the outcome.

Maturity means dependability, integrity, keeping one's word. The immature have excuses for everything. They are chronically tardy, the no shows, the gutless wonders who fold in the crises. Their lives are a maze of broken promises, unfinished business, and former friends.

Maturity is the ability to live in peace with that which we cannot change...

Even if you are on the right track,
you'll get run over if you just sit there.

Anonymous

●A pompous, inflated Congressman
once remarked to Horace Greeley: "I am a
self-made man."

To which Greeley replied, "Well, sir,
that relieves the Almighty of a great
responsibility."

●Every day the world turns over on
someone who had just been sitting on top
of it.

*"Our relationship is
going downhill, and
I'm tired of the way
I've been living."*

*...NOTHING AND NOBODY
IS EVER, EVER, EVER
AS THEY TOTALLY
SEEM.*

**The first time
seems like
the worst time
but it's the one time
you'll never forget!**

*"To be
conscious
that you are
ignorant
of the facts
is a great
step to
knowledge."*

*That which is used develops. That which is
not used wastes away.*

HIPPOCRATES

It's time to make a change.

With a good heredity, nature deals you a fine hand at
cards; and with a good environment, you learn to play the
hand well.
—Walter C. Alvarez, M.D.

*To live is to change, and to be perfect is to
have changed often.*

CARDINAL NEWMAN

THE HUMAN ADVENTURE IS JUST BEGINNING.

*To live is to change, and to be perfect is to
have changed often.*

CARDINAL NEWMAN

*"You have to be aware of the past and you have
to look toward the future, but you can only control
the present, and you can only control yourself."*

"I'll always live at a hundred miles an hour, 'cause that's what I'm here for."

When The Time Comes, Will You Be Ready?

NEVER SAY "NEVER!"

He who isn't busy being born is busy dying.

Bob Dylan

If the World Is Ending, Say So

The dark moment the caterpillar calls the end of the world is the sun-filled moment the butterfly calls the beginning.

People don't get better or worse, they only get more-so.

The time is ripe for change and new perspectives.

"Never discourage anyone who continually makes progress, no matter how slow."

—Plato

Where can you come from is not nearly as important as where you are going

•There is nothing noble in being superior to some other man. True nobility is in being superior to your former self.
—Hindu Proverb

If you demand perfection or nothing, you'll always end up with nothing.

When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

Crazy Enough To Try?

Never Know Where You Might Wind Up

Stay Hungry

To learn you must want to be taught.

IT IS WISE TO REMEMBER that you are one of those who can be fooled some of the time.
—Laurence J. Peter, *Peter's Almanac* (Morrow)

YOU ARE ALWAYS YOUNG ENOUGH TO LEARN

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE (OR TOO EARLY) TO GET HELP!!

"Desire is the beginning of all achievement."

—Unknown

Submitted by Kim Nemitz
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

DOES IT PAY TO START LIFE OVER?

*Understanding, acceptance,
and love are processes.
They may not happen in a
day, a week, or a year.
But as you begin, you are
on your way. You will no
longer watch things happen
or ask, "What happened?"
You will be what's hap-
pening.*

Robert Kennedy said:

Each time
a man stands up for an ideal,
or acts to improve the lot of others,
or strikes out against injustice,
he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope.

And cross each other
from a million different centers
of energy and daring,
those ripples build a current
that can sweep down
the mightiest walls
of oppression...

Hurry Up Please, It's Time

The great thing in this world is not so much where we stand, as in what
direction we are moving.
Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr.

One Step Is Not Enough

There is a whole new world of
extracurricular activities to be explored.

*Progress is the sum of small victories won by
individual human beings.*

BRUCE CATTON

**Directing one's thoughts
Not letting them run rampant.
Privilege of man.**

*Idealism increases in direct proportion to one's
distance from the problem.*

**You Can Turn Those
Negatives Around**

Maturity . . . is the ability to do a job whether or not you are supervised, to carry
money without spending it and to bear an injustice without wanting to get even.
Ann Landers

•Middle Age is that perplexing time of
life when we hear two voices calling us,
one saying, "Why not?" and the other,
"Why bother?"
—Last Things First

•The first half of our lives is ruined by
our parents and the second half by our
children.
—Clarence S. Darrow

•"Our generation never got a break.
When we were young, they taught us to
respect our elders, and now that we're
older, they tell us to listen to the youth."

**"A book should serve as an axe for
the frozen sea within us."**

Franz Kafka (1883-1924)

You really have to know a lot before you know
how little you know.

**Life is for living! And living is
an experience in growth and unfold-
ment. It is not so important what
happens around us or even to us.
What counts is what happens in us.
Eric Butterworth**

Things Are Tough All Over

WHAT TO CHANGE When the facts won't budge -- change your attitude.



● Not everything that is faced can be changed; but nothing can be changed until it is faced.

—James Baldwin

A person is ripe for change when he discovers—to his dismay and chagrin—that his way of living in the world has failed.

Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections, but instantly set about remedying them — every day begin the task anew.

St. Francis de Sales

**Just When I Figure Out Where It's At,
Somebody Moves It!**

**You Must
Go Home
Again**

*so far,
so good...
so what!*

“Mature people don't need to wait for someone else to put labels all over their world.”

“One of the greatest pains to human nature is the pain of a new idea.”

—W. H. Auden

‘Everything Is a Learning Experience’

AT AGE 20, most people don't care what the world thinks about them; at 30 they worry about what the world is thinking, and at 40 they discover that the world wasn't thinking of them at all.

“All men are liable to err; but he shows wisdom and earns blessings who heals the ills his errors caused, being not too stubborn; too stiff a will is folly.”

OF ALL forces acting on man, change is the most beneficial and the most cruel.

Sophocles
(c.496–406 B.C.)
Antigone

The Futures Belong to Us

**Avoid the Pitfalls
Of Perfectionism**

* Garage mechanic to car owner: "I couldn't fix your brakes so I made your horn louder."

...But the Pendulum Can Easily Swing Back the Other Way

- The shortest way is not always right, nor the smoothest nor the safest. Therefore, do not be surprised if the Lord chooses the farthest and roughest, but be sure of this -- He will choose the best.

All change is not growth;
as all movement is not forward.
Ellen Glasgow

- There is not hope for those who are satisfied.

-Frederick G. Bonfils

We're all created equal. After that, baby, you're on your own

- As one grows older, one realizes that the things our enemies find hateful about us are hateful.

-Mauriac

- The greatest freedom man has is the freedom to discipline himself.

-Bernard M. Baruch

"I will study and prepare myself, and someday my chance will come."

-Abraham Lincoln

There's never time to do it right, but there's always time to do it over.

A KIND OF DEATH:

... "I don't know what's gone wrong, but I just don't believe like I used to. The young person feels sick at heart, yet the chances are that the only thing wrong with him is that he's growing up. This isn't to gloss over the pain not is it to water down the dangers of the experience or its riskiness. The youth passing from one stage of his life to another There is a kind of death involved in the transition, for one level must die if the other is to be born healthy.

- There is no security on this earth. Only opportunity.

-Douglas MacArthur

IDEALS are like the stars. We never reach them but, like the mariners of the sea, we chart our course by them.

-Carl Schurz

“I have learned silence from the talkative; tolerance from the intolerant; and kindness from the unkind.”

Kahlil Gibran (1883-1931)

Destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice; it is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved.

-William Jennings Bryan

HOW TO BE TREATED If we take people as they are, we make them worse. If we treat them as if they were what they ought to be, we help them to become what they are capable of becoming.

Follow The Impulse . . . One can never consent to creep when one feels an impulse to soar.
Helen Keller

PROGRESS Progress always involves risks. You can't steal second and keep your foot on first.

SUFFERING . . . No pain, no palm; no thorns, no throne; no gall, no glory; no cross, no crown. William Penn

CHANGE Just when you think you see the whole picture of life clearly; the channel changes.
Arnot L. Sheppard, Jr.

PROGRESS "The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable man."

1. **Two-Step opener**—(Plan to read aloud the "Two-Step Statements" from this article.) Have junior highers line up near the middle of the room facing one end of the room. Say: I'm going to read some statements about the path you've chosen for your life. If you agree with a statement, take two steps forward. If you disagree with a statement, take one step backward.

Two-Step Statements

- I've achieved an important goal in the last year.
- I'm sure that the steps I'm taking in my life right now won't lead to a dead end.
- I've never stepped on someone else to achieve a goal.
- I've felt God directing my steps.
- I've made long-term goals for my life.
- I've made short-term goals for my life.
- I have a clear idea of what I want my life to be like in five years.
- I have a specific goal I'd like to reach in the next three weeks.
- I know God's will is an important influence on the goals and decisions I make.
- I see the new year as an exciting opportunity for personal growth and change.
- I talk to my parents and friends about my hopes and fears for the future.
- I know the steps I need to take to accomplish my goals.

The first two people to move forward and reach the end of the room are the winners.

What started out as a dream is now a reality.

CHANGE IS THE ESSENTIAL PROCESS OF ALL EXISTENCE.

Nothing Lasts Forever

“Have patience with all things, but first of all with yourself.”

St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622)

By blowing on the thermometer, you got it to register higher, but you did not warm the room.

Growing up doesn't have to be such a shattering experience!

Everybody thinks of changing humanity, and nobody thinks of changing himself. Tolstoy

the more mistakes you make the more you learn

"If a person can be involved in some sort of an environment that causes them to choose a direction, the possibilities are limitless, especially if it's a direction to get to know their Creator. Once you do experience that, it's not something you can ever forget."

The Future is coming. Are you ready?

Korea, 1981

Broad and gentle, deeply rooted, native to your soil, and when the sky fills and blows us all around, I bow but smoothly to the force and swing in strength to stand again, unbroken. A dance. Wind whirl though where it will, the courage sprouts along with me and each of my fibers as we dance to rhythms of the earth and of its people. Survive we will, and not because of stiffness or certainness but rather the way we do bend to let the storm pass its course and leave us alive and one with the land of the calm, and leave us alive.

More Is Less

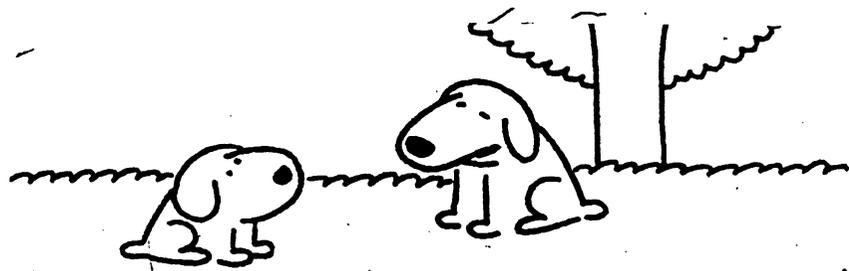
As we grow we are required by the fact of growth not to close ourselves off. Rollo May
AM I willing to give up what I have in order to be what I am not yet? AM I willing to let my ideas of myself, of man be changed?

There are eight million excuses for us to be less than we are. It's like the work of a farmer who clears a virgin forest—there are eight million chuckholes to fall into. There is only one way to realize your potential. Don't accept excuses. Take the responsibility every day. Take it whether you like it or not. This becomes your life. This also becomes your harvest.

Pass to understanding. Where the road is understanding and problems, interconnect, Those grow the tree of life.

It was said about an old man that he endured seventy weeks of fasting, eating only once a week. He asked God about certain words in the Holy Scripture, but God did not answer him. Then he said to himself: Look, I have put in this much effort, but I haven't made any progress. So now I will go to see my brother, and ask him. And when he had gone out,

closed the door and started off, an angel of the Lord was sent to him, and said: Seventy weeks of fasting have not brought you near to God. But now that you are humbled enough to go to your brother, I have been sent to you to reveal the meaning of the words. Then the angel explained the meaning which the old man was seeking, and went away.



"My advice is to learn all the tricks you can while you're young."

DRUCKER: Know your strength. The most important thing is to know what you're good at. Very few people know that. All of us know what we're not good at. But the reason why so few of us know what we're good at is that it comes so easy. You sweat over what's hard to do. So knowing what you're good at is the first thing.

The second thing is to know when to change. There are certain situations in which you don't stay. You don't stay in a situation which corrupts. Better to go off the diving board on your own, even if you're not sure there's water down there. And know when to quit. If you're no longer learning anything, if your work no longer challenges you, if you feel "I've only got twenty years to retirement," then get out. Accept the fact that with modern life expectancy, if you are a knowledge worker, you will have a second career. Yesterday's farmer, with all the heavy physical labor, was an old man at age forty-three. For his great-grandson, who sits behind a desk with a spreadsheet, the greatest occupational hazard is hemorrhoids. Twenty years as a market researcher for the toy company is too long. Then you begin to get the typical degenerative diseases of early middle age -- the bottle, the affair with the nineteen-year-old, or the psychoanalyst's couch. Of these, the psychoanalyst's couch costs the most and takes the longest. The results are pretty much the same. But when you reach that point, change careers. You need to be reprinted. You need new challenges, even if only new people.

The basic trouble with the last half of the 20th century is that all the stress is placed on staying young, and none on growing up.

ASHLEY COOPER

Charleston, S.C. News and Courier

No army can withstand the strength of an idea whose time has come.
Victor Hugo

THE TRUTH ABOUT GOODBYES Goodbyes are sad things. You leave behind the dreams that you've worked to make real, friends that you've suffered with and grown to love, and sometimes a quiet security that was built with, what seemed to be, half a lifetime. In life everywhere, you move along and leave your efforts behind you in the dust knowing deep inside that you will never find them exactly the same again. Often you spend too much time looking back and miss something up ahead. But there's little use in trying to avoid the loneliness and anxiety that go with you when you move on . . . for that is life and it is a certainty. Life teaches you to accept goodbyes as part of saying hello to things that are newer. It teaches you also that what was loved and what was learned in the past can never be lost.

**EVEN A GREAT IDEA IS ONLY AN IDEA
UNTIL YOU MAKE IT REAL**

MOTIVATING FOR CHANGE Three things make people want to change. One is that they hurt sufficiently. Another is a slow type of despair called "ennui" or boredom. A third is the sudden discovery that they can.

- 1- I must succeed
- 2- You must treat me well
- 3- The world must be my friend

Problem causing cycle

Growth

The Big Hunts



Defenses



Questions



Answers

GROWTH

- Goal - what do you want
- Plan
using info of what's worked
- Act consistently
- Make a Commitment

Facing life bravely...
Confident that all is well,
Each day a new start.

**Start
Making Sense**

“Where there is an open mind, there will always be a frontier.”

Charles Kettering (1876-1958)

A CHILD DOESN'T DEMAND PROOF THAT PLAYING A CERTAIN GAME IS GOING TO MAKE HIM HAPPY. HE PLAYS THE GAME! AND FINDS OUT WHETHER OR NOT IT MAKES HIM HAPPY.

One meets his destiny often in the road he takes to avoid it.

We can discover meaning in life in three different ways:
by doing a deed, by experiencing a value, and by suffering.

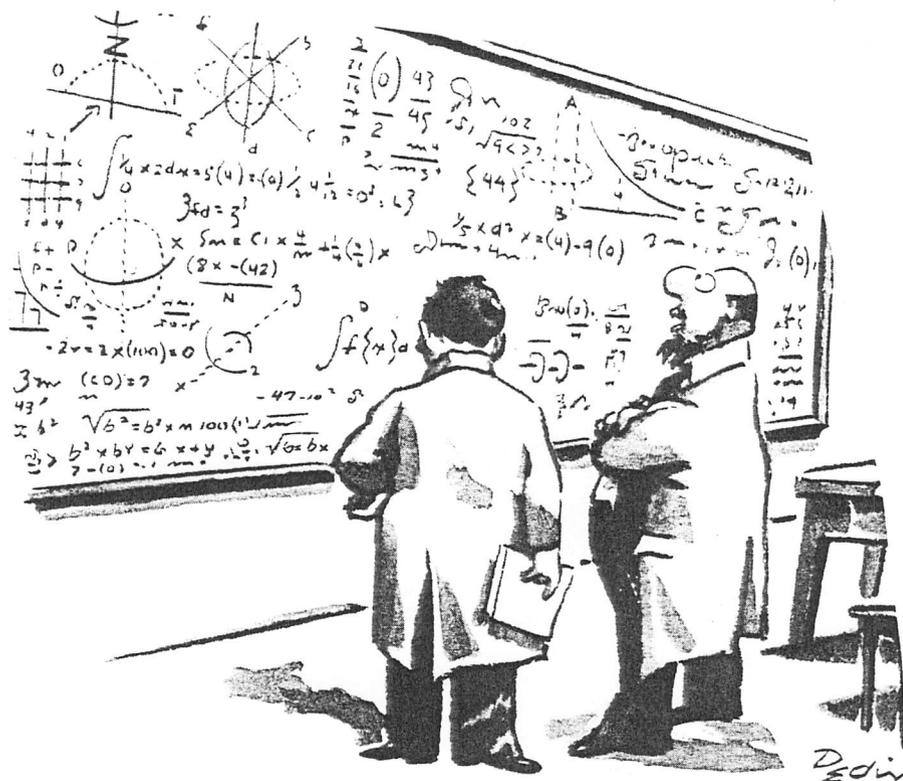
PROGRESS "The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable man."

STEP ONE . . . The first step in solving any problem is to begin.

To accuse others for one's own misfortunes is a sign of want of education. To accuse oneself shows that one's education has begun. To accuse neither oneself nor others shows that one's education is complete.

EPICETUS

There Is a Tide



"This is fine as far as it goes. From here on, it's who you know."

FOR WHAT ARE YOU SEARCHING?

It is said that two kinds of birds fly over our nation's deserts: the hummingbird and the vulture.

All vultures see is rotting meat because that is all they look for. They thrive on that diet.

But hummingbirds ignore the carcasses and the smelly flesh of dead animals. Instead, they look for the tiny blossoms of the cactus flower. They buzz around until they find the colorful blooms almost hidden from view by the rocks.

Each bird finds what it is looking for.

What are you looking for? What are you finding? What you find may speak volumes about what you are really looking for. Your expectations of life will determine your discoveries.

Renewing ourselves does not demand that we remake ourselves entirely, but rather that, like the Earth itself, we draw on the life that is already present, the possibilities that have survived and that we give these a chance to grow.
Eugene Kennedy

*Remember
that you are at an exceptional hour in a
unique epoch,
that you have this great happiness,
this invaluable privilege,
of being present at the birth of a new
world.*

—The Mother,
Sri Aurobindo Ashram

ONE DAY a small boy was trying to lift a heavy stone, but he couldn't budge it. His father, passing by, stopped to watch his efforts. Finally he said to his son: "Are you using all your strength?"

"Yes, I am," the boy cried, exasperated.

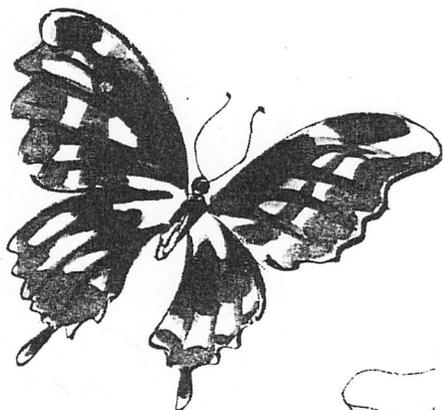
"No," the father said calmly, "you're not. You haven't asked me to help you."

When one door closes, another opens; but we often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door that we do not see the one which has opened for us.

Alexander Graham Bell

**Our limits
are the
hardest
things for
any of us to
accept.**

But we do not become REAL PEOPLE automatically at a certain age. Neither does one become a PERSON in isolation, by himself, alone. The person comes alive only by entering into communion with another person through knowledge, love, and service. The person is found by giving, so friends are important helps to our discovery of ourselves. We depend on the reactions of other people in order to find out who we are. When we are accepted by a friend, we gain confidence and security and are helped to become our better selves.



"If you ask me, he's come too far too fast."

Some Things We Can't Do

- (1) Sow bad habits and reap a good character.
- (2) Sow jealousy and hatred and reap love and friendship.
- (3) Sow wicked thoughts and reap a clean life.
- (4) Sow wrong deeds and live righteously.
- (5) Sow crime and get away with it.
- (6) Sow dissipation and reap a healthy body.
- (7) Sow crooked dealings and succeed indefinitely.
- (8) Sow self-indulgence and not show it in your face.
- (9) Sow disloyalty and reap loyalty from others.
- (10) Sow dishonesty and reap integrity.
- (11) Sow profane words and reap clean speech.
- (12) Sow disrespect and reap respect.
- (13) Sow deception and reap confidence.
- (14) Sow untidiness and reap neatness.
- (15) Sow intemperance and reap sobriety and temperance.
- (16) Sow indifference and reap nature's rewards.
- (17) Sow mental or physical laziness and reap a responsible position in society.
- (18) Sow cruelty and reap kindness.
- (19) Sow wastefulness and reap thriftiness.
- (20) Sow cowardice and reap courage.
- (21) Sow destruction of other people's property and reap protection for our own.
- (22) Sow greed and envy and reap generosity.
- (23) Sow neglect of the Lord's house and reap strength in temptation.
- (24) Sow neglect of the Bible and reap a well-guided life.
- (25) Sow human thistles and reap human roses.

—James Nankivell

“The most beautiful thing in the world is, precisely, the conjunction of learning and inspiration.”

Wanda Landowska
(1879-1959)
Landowska on Music

“Reform is born of need, not pity.”

Rebecca Harding Davis
(1831-1910)
“Life in the Iron Mills,”
Atlantic Monthly, April, 1861

**Will it all
be there when
you get back?**

As one gets older, one discovers everything is going to be exactly the same with different hats on.
Noel Coward

All changes, even the most longed for, have their melancholy, for what we leave behind us is a part of ourselves; we must die to one life before we can enter into another.
Anatole France

All things must change to something new, to something strange.
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

I see gr-eat changes takin' place ivry day, but no change at all ivry fifty years.
Finley Peter Dunne

'Change' is scientific, 'progress' is ethical; change is indubitable, whereas progress is a matter of controversy.
Bertrand Russell

Turbulence is life force. It is opportunity. Let's love turbulence and use it for a change.
Ramsay Clark

Would that life were like the shadow cast by a wall or a tree, but it is like the shadow of a bird in flight.
The Talmud

Fame is a vapour, popularity an accident; the only earthly certainty is oblivion.
Mark Twain

Every new adjustment is a crisis in self-esteem.
Eric Hoffer

THE SPIRIT OF GOD IS EVER MOVING ME FORWARD IN A LIFE OF CHANGE, GROWTH, AND PROGRESS.

Change

I welcome each change in my life as a milestone of progress. I rejoice that life is an eternally unfolding process of change, growth, and progress. Growth and progress are governing principles of my being, and I cooperate by blessing changing conditions and circumstances and calling them good.

No matter what new way of life lies before me, no matter what new pattern of life emerges, I know that God is the underlying principle of good in all. I know that it is the Spirit of God that is ever revealing new ways and new paths to me. It is the Spirit of God that is moving me forward in life.

I welcome change, for I know that good is continually unfolding. I rejoice that all changes in my life are perfectly timed. All progress in my life is under God's direction and in accord with His law of good.

Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—II Pet. 3:18

The right to life does not end with birth. Our whole history tells us that the right to life is the right to grow, to suffer... to become.

—Joanne McPartl and

"To be conscious that you are ignorant of the facts is a great step to knowledge."

Benjamin Disraeli
1804—1881

"The More Things Change, the More They Remain Things"

Nowhere to Go but Up

"You can't stand tall in the saddle when your horse is in quick sand."

On my desk was the motto: THINK CREATIVELY, ACT DECISIVELY, LIVE DANGEROUSLY. That's the motto I lived by—and money just kept pouring in. And then . . . and then"—the beggar's frame shook with sobs—"the cleaning woman threw my motto out with the trash."

No matter how energetic, ambitious or even wise we may be, if we truly look into ourselves we will find laziness lurking at some level. It is the force of entropy within us, pushing us down and holding us all back from our spiritual evolution."

Scott Peck

Growth

Jesus tells us there is nothing uglier than the man who thinks he knows everything

That the man who does not remember what it is like to be a child - to be open and exploring and unattached is not to be trusted

Changes

Changes come that we may grow . . .
Sometimes fast, sometimes slow.
We don't want to change, we say,
We like our life in its patterned way!

But wise we are to let it be
A growing time of good,
A time to see that
God governs His universe in love
Supporting large and small.

Trusting in God's guidance now,
Let there be grace at change's call,
For life is change and change we must.
So let us grow and change with trust.

TO BE BORN, WE HAVE TO BE WILLING TO GIVE UP OUR LIVES.

Think Impossible . . . Attempt something so impossible that unless God is in it, it is doomed to failure. John Haggai

MOTIVATING FOR CHANGE Three things make people want to change. One is that they hurt sufficiently. Another is a slow type of despair called "ennui" or boredom. A third is the sudden discovery that they can.

COMPUTERS Computer forecasts are no more reliable than the assumptions on which they are based. If, in 1895, we had put into a computer the number of horses expected to be needed for transportation in the United States in 1984, the computer would have told us that every American citizen would be buried under eleven feet of manure.

You can destroy your now by worrying about tomorrow.

-Janis Joplin

what's next?

Better Late than Never?

guidelines for dealing effectively with change:

- DO acknowledge what you are feeling.
- DO think the problem through.
- DO realize that change happens to everyone - and you will get through it.
- DON'T repress what you are experiencing.
- DON'T pretend the change never happened.
- DON'T view the change as the most catastrophic thing that ever happened in your life.

CHANGE

There is nothing permanent except change.
—Heraclitus (540–475? B.C.)

Just because everything is different doesn't mean anything has changed.
—Irene Peter

The more the change the more it is the same thing.
—Alphonse Karr (1808–1890)

I reject get-it-done, make-it-happen thinking. I want to slow things down so I understand them better.
—Governor Jerry Brown

Let a man proclaim a new principle. Public sentiment will surely be on the other side.
—Thomas B. Reed

It is the nature of a man as he grows older . . . to protest against change, particularly change for the better.
—John Steinbeck

The philosophers have only interpreted the world; the thing, however, is to change it.
—Karl Marx (1818–1883)

It's the most unhappy people who most fear change.
—Mignon McLaughlin

The art of progress is to preserve order amid change and to preserve change amid order.
—Alfred North Whitehead

Progress is a nice word. But change is its motivator and change has its enemies.
—Robert F. Kennedy

Society can only pursue its normal course by means of a certain progression of changes.
—John, Viscount Morley

The moral world is as little exempt as the physical world from the law of ceaseless change, of perpetual flux.
—Sir James Frazer

Man has a limited biological capacity for change. When this capacity is overwhelmed, the capacity is in future shock.
—Alvin Toffler

IN AN EVER-CHANGING WORLD, I AM ONE WITH THE CHANGELESS CHRIST.

Change

There is always change, because there is a constant state of growth and progress in the world. However, some people seem to experience feelings of stress and tension when meeting an alteration in their lives, even when it is one they have anticipated.

Whatever the changes, let us take heart in the assurance of this truth: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever." We can hold to the Truth of Christ in times of change.

Knowing that we are one with the changeless Christ, we meet change with poise and peace of mind. We take whatever new comes in stride, remembering that outer changes cannot affect the unchanging principle of good, the Christ that underlies and rules all creation. When change comes, we meet it with assurance. In an ever-changing world, we are one with the changeless Christ.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.—Heb. 13:8

“It is easier to tear down a code than to put a new one in its place.”

Frederick Lewis Allen
(1890–1954)
Only Yesterday

It's Never Too Late

Would we change if we knew what waits beyond space and time?

Sometimes,
the best way to change your life
is to start a new one.

“There comes a time in a man’s life when to get where he has to go— if there are no doors or windows he walks through a wall.”

Bernard Malamud (1914–)

Changing Values and Shifting Priorities in Pretransitional and Transitional Societies

| | <i>Pretransitional</i> | <i>Transitional</i> |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| Organizing Principle of Economy | Materialism | Sustainability |
| Nature of Product | Planned obsolescence; throwaway mentality | Durability, high quality engineering and design |
| Relationship to Nature | Domination of nature | Harmony with nature |
| Scale | Bigger is better | Smaller has a place too |
| Speed | Let’s go faster | Where are we going? |
| Specialization | Key to efficiency | Increases dependency, leads to boring work |
| Childbearing | Taken for granted, virtually automatic | Optional; to be given serious thought |
| Determinants of Status | Material possessions | Personal development, social contribution |

Source: Worldwatch Institute

People can make up the darndest excuses

Seasons of the Heart

The heart has many seasons,
Just as this good old earth,
And they all combine together,
To comprise what we are worth.
There is a childhood innocence,
In which we dream and play,
There is a time for growing up,
And making our own way.

There is a time for keeping,
And a time for letting go,
A time for moving swiftly,
And a time for walking slow.

GOD HAS GIVEN ME A FLEXIBLE SPIRIT.

Flexible

A flexible spirit helps me maintain a youthful outlook on life and gives me greater resilience in times of changing circumstances and relationships.

Today I exercise my flexible spirit by finding new ways to use the truth that I know. Just as I pay careful attention to the nutrition and health of my body, God’s holy temple, I also remember to exercise and utilize my ability to adapt to changes in my world.

In positive and enriching ways, I use my innate ability to be creative. I give thanks that each day brings the opportunity to choose a new goal, to overcome challenge, and to be truly innovative.

I overcome any tendency toward fear or reluctance with conscious, consistent, and increasing use of all my mental and spiritual faculties. God is my strength as I move forward in joyful expectation.

*Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.*

—Psalms 51:10

Will There Be a Future for Our Kind?

Don’t Believe the Hype

There is a time for learning,
And a time for teaching, too,
And there is time for resting,
When all the chores are through.

We all know joy and sorrow,
’Tis written in the plan,
But Heaven waits beyond life’s gates,
For every earnest man.
Each life has many pictures,
And all a work of art,
But what a silver symphony,
... The seasons of the heart.

Grace E. Easley

THE ISSUE AT HAND—THE CONFLICT BETWEEN WHAT ONE IS AND WHAT ONE IS EXPECTED TO BE—TOUCHES ALL OF US.

“Dad, I hope you don’t mind me asking so many questions.”
“Of course not,” replied the father. “How else are you going to learn?”

“I feel there is an angel in me whom I am constantly shocking.”

Jean Cocteau (1889–1963)

“No matter how far you have gone on a wrong road, turn back.”

Turkish proverb

SELF DENIAL . . . Every step in our progress toward success is a sacrifice. We gain by losing; grow by dwindling; live by dying.

How do you laugh, when the flesh of your people is dragged through the streets? How do you have the faith to keep singing, when the door of opportunity is slammed in your face because you're black? How are you able to succor those who brought you low and who are yet trying to keep you down? How do you keep smiling, when you are denied comfortable transportation, equity in the laws of the land and every other right and privilege that would help you become the greatest personality that you might become?

I laugh, because in the distance I can see the dawn of a new day that is visible only to those who look through the lens of faith and love. As my forefathers sang, "Swing Lord, Sweet Chariot, " I laugh, because I see dimly this world of hate, prejudice, and hell gradually becoming the kingdom of equity of love. I laugh, because those who try to keep it otherwise by lynching, mobbing and exploiting cannot prevent the change. I laugh, because the "time that makes ancient good uncouth also makes ancient uncouth good." I laugh, because, "Progress is the law of life" (Browning) and "Man is not man yet" and there must be an ultimate decency of things.

THE OPPOSITE OF STEWARD IS VICTIM In his book, The Search for Power, Harvard Professor David C. McClelland contends that there are four stages in the development of the individual to maturity:

- Stage 1: Power is perceived as coming from others, but is directed towards oneself.
Stage 2: Power is perceived as residing within oneself, and is used for the needs of the self.
Stage 3: Power is perceived as residing within oneself, but is used for the sake of others.
Stage 4: Power is perceived as residing outside, coming through the self, but used for the sake of others.

This stage is what religion is all about. And faith. And theology. And Jesus.

It is the task of career development to help remove the last vestiges of stage 1 (where we feel like "victims") from our lives, by teaching that even in the world of work, power resides within us, and can be used for the sake of others. So as long as men and women do not know or believe this, theology may well beckon them in vain, to stage 4. We must first learn we are not victims, before we learn that we are stewards.

TWO KINDS OF DISCONTENT There are two kinds of discontent in this world: the discontent that gets to work and the discontent that wrings its hands. The first gets what it wants and the second loses what it has.

•The real world is now international and interplanetary, but most people still conceive of it in terms of how far a person can ride a horse in a day. •

It's never too late to learn!

Pausing makes us grow - not pain and change resulting from the pause. Its not true that all growth comes from pain. Growth comes from change - change can hurt. I can't - I won't. People are reluctant to change.

If the world doesn't excite you anymore, maybe it's because you've allowed yourself to stop growing.

A variety of conclusions can be drawn from our present fix. This much is for sure: nothing stays won. It is easier for individuals and nations to struggle than it is for them to arrive. We need to be rescued as much from our successes as from our failures. Out of the depths we cry to God, but from the heights it's hard to muster a prayer. When it's easy to believe in God it's hard to believe in God. There is widespread pain in the ministry these days. Part of it comes from our having to deal with people who see their velvet shoes and silk pajamas as signs of grace. One sees an ancient warning from Amos waving its hand begging our attention: "Woe to them who are at ease in Zion."

THE DEVIL'S STRATEGY Tell the people that God is real. Tell them that they should have faith in Him. Tell them that the Gospel is true, that Jesus Christ died to save them from their sins. But tell them that there is no hurry. [Sr. devil giving advice to Jr. devil in Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis]
Gene Sikkink, Princeton, MN.

We are hearing a great deal these days about the ending of our era. Although human beings have always lived in fear of death, in our times it seems that the race as a whole trembles for free not only of death but of disintegration and total disappearance. Dissolution and death must precede a new birth. Loss, sacrifice, suffering, and death as the road leading to the door into a transformed life.

MOTIVATING FOR CHANGE Three things make people want to change. One is that they hurt sufficiently. Another is a slow type of despair called "ennui" or boredom. A third is the sudden discovery that they can.

GET BACK TO YOUR ROOTS

Timing . . . Why can't life's big problems come when we are twenty and know everything?

THE TIGER CALLS There is an ancient folk-tale about a tiger that was brought up with a herd of goats. From the day his eyes opened, all he saw was a goat's life so it became his style of life too. The tiger munched grass with the rest, butted heads with the younger goats for recreation, and learned to bleat in an odd sort of way a sound that resembled, so he thought, the goat's voice. Once in a while there was a nagging voice inside him that said, "You don't belong to this life!" But always he put it aside as a fantasy, some disturbing intrusion from the world of dreams. If this didn't satisfy him, he just marked it off as the discontent that always hovers around the edges of any life style. So he, a tiger, chose to stay with a goat's way of life because he believed that was the way life had to be.

Then one day a tiger came into the clearing. He was all tiger, having grown up knowing who he was. He looked into the clearing and spotted the goats. He roared the earth-shaking roar of his species, bounded out and made his kill. The goats fled in terror and so did the tiger who had grown up with them. At first he wanted to stay. The roar from the edge of the forest had stirred some lost memory in his soul. He flexed his great muscles in a kind of automatic reflex to the challenge from the forest edge. For a moment he could have been a tiger too, but he could not believe in the sound he heard, the challenge it brought. He couldn't believe in himself, in the instincts that had lain dormant so long. For a brief moment, he could have been a tiger. He wanted to try, but then the goat's life was all he knew and so he turned and fled. He could have grasped a new and greater life, but then he fell back to being a goat for the rest of his days.

All his life, the changeling eagle, thinking he was a prairie chicken, did what the prairie chickens did. He scratched in the dirt for seeds and insects to eat. He clucked and cackled. And he flew in a brief thrashing of wings and flurry of feathers no more than a few feet off the ground. After all, that's how prairie chickens were supposed to fly.

Years passed. And the changeling eagle grew very old. One day, he saw a magnificent bird far above him in the cloudless sky. Hanging with graceful majesty on the powerful wind currents, it soared with scarcely a beat of its strong golden wings.

"What a beautiful bird!" said the changeling eagle to his neighbor. "What is it?"

"That's an eagle -- the chief of the birds," the neighbor clucked. "But don't give it a second thought. You could never be like him."

So the changeling eagle never gave it another thought. And it died thinking it was a prairie chicken.

One who can take advice is sometimes superior to one who can give it.

PATIENCE We all need to learn the story of the Chinese bamboo tree. The Chinese plant the seed; they water and fertilize it, but the first year nothing happens. The second year they water and fertilize it, and still nothing happens. The third and fourth year they water and fertilize it, and sometime during the course of the fifth year, in a period of approximately six weeks the Chinese bamboo tree grows roughly ninety feet.

The question is, "Did it grow ninety feet in six weeks or did it grow ninety feet in five years?" The obvious answer is that it grew ninety feet in five years, because had they not applied the water and fertilizer each year there would have been no Chinese bamboo tree.

It's Up to You to Make a Change in World

“Fanaticism consists of redoubling your efforts when you have forgotten your aim.”

George Santayana (1863–1952)

*When life loses its meaning
and the soul is aware of its sickness
the alternatives are breakdown*

*A fresh and perhaps deeper look
at oneself and reality. Alina Stewart*

What If We Had To Start Over?

He is a poor creature who does not believe himself to be better than the whole world else no matter how ill we may be, nor how low we may have fallen, we should not change identity with any other person.

—Samuel Butler

In nothing do men approach so nearly to the gods as doing good to men.

—Marcus Tullius Cicero (106–43 B.C.)

Every man is worth just so much as the things are worth about which he busies himself.

—Marcus Aurelius (121–180)

The control man has secured over nature has far outrun his control over himself.

—Ernest Jones

A man is rich in proportion to the things he can afford to let alone.

—Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862)

Whenever two people meet there are really six people present. There is each man as he sees himself, each man as the other person sees him, and each man as he really is.

—William James

Every man has three characters—that which he exhibits, that which he has, and that which he thinks he has.

—Alphonse Karr (1808–1890)

I know of no more encouraging fact than the unquestionable ability of man to elevate his life by a conscious endeavor.

—Henry David Thoreau

The greatest revolution of our generation is the discovery that human beings, by changing the inner attitudes of their minds can change the outer aspects of their lives.

—William James

Man, biologically considered . . . is the most formidable of all the beasts of prey, and, indeed, the only one that preys systematically on its own species.

—William James

Man is the only animal to whom the torture and death of his fellow creatures is amusing in itself.

—James A. Froude (1818–1894)

Man—a creature made at the end of the week's work when God was tired.

—Mark Twain

I sometimes think that God in creating man somewhat overestimated His ability.

—Oscar Wilde (1854–1900)

There is no stigma attached to recognizing a bad decision in time to install a better one.

—Laurence J. Peter

To give up pretensions is as blessed a relief as to get them ratified.

—William James

Man is a social animal.

—Baruch Spinoza (1632–1677)

Man is a political animal.

—Aristotle (384–322 B.C.)

Man—a being in search of meaning.

—Plato (427?–347 B.C.)

Man is the measure of all things.

—Protagoras (5th century B.C.)

There is as much difference between us and ourselves as between us and others.

—Michel de Montaigne (1533–1592)

Whatever you may be sure of, be sure of this, that you are dreadfully like other people.

—James Russell Lowell (1819–1891)

The significance of man is that he is insignificant and is aware of it.

—Carl Becker

When a man is wrapped up in himself, he makes a pretty small package.

—John Ruskin (1819–1900)

“ You have to keep changing to survive. --Darren Hill ”

SMALL STEPS

Do not despair, that you cannot change
The world in a day or two.
Instead, just give your very best
In the little things you do.
Then you will find in days to come
When taken all together,
These little steps did change and make
The world a little better.

Thomas C. Gallagher

We spend the first part of our lives wanting to become an institution and the second part trying to stay out of one.

DOING WHAT SOME CALL IMPOSSIBLE

A parable from the world of mountain climbing concerns one of the world's greatest -- Reinhold Messner from Northern Italy. In our world there are 14 peaks above 26,000 feet. When you climb these world class peaks, the air is so thin that you can't get enough oxygen and you die. Only one man has climbed all 14 peaks -- Reinhold Messner -- and he does it without any oxygen equipment. In fact, he climbs without the standard equipment that all alpine explorers use and he doesn't use a guide. Last October he conquered the 14th peak, called Makalu, at 27,756 feet. It took three attempts and he said it was not easy. In fact, he said, you walk 25 steps, stop and breathe deeply ten or twenty times, then you take a few more steps. But he did it. Experts wondered how, and so doctors have examined him only to find that he is not some kind of bionic man, but has the physique of an above-average marathoner. I mean lots of others have the capacity to do what he does. So why don't they do it?

Another alpine climber says that what makes Reinhold Messner different is what he calls "Creative Innovation." He went on to say that in most human endeavors there is a wall which most people call 'impossible,' and they come to it and stop. Then someone comes along like Reinhold with a wonderful imagination and determination and he or she laughs at the wall and moves beyond it, and becomes more than he ever dreamed possible. All things are possible for those who believe God for them. Not easy, but within reach, Thank God.

"YOU R NOT ALONE"

Abe's Advice

If I were to try to read much less answer all the attacks made on me, this shop might as well be closed for any other business. I do the very best I know how the very best I can, and I mean to keep doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything. If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference.

— A. Lincoln

"It is less painful to learn in youth than to be ignorant in age."

—Old Proverb

You're never too young to learn the score.

For Something Good to be born
Something's got to die
For Something Good to come together
something's got to Break down.
God is present in both processes
"I need you here to let people know they are not alone - because going thru this alone is more than anyone can bear."
Why Jesus was sent, also what Mission of Church is.

There are many times when it's necessary to do your homework, to sit for a long time and deeply ask and ask and ask until you really feel that you are asking from the deepest place. You create a vibration, a feeling, a kind of intensity from deeply within you that begins to condense and then expand and then change the chemistry of your whole body. When you don't reach from a deep place within yourself how is anything going to happen? What can grow in rocks and sand?

: In still water, there is stagnation, in flowing water, there is purity.

Becoming Ourselves

What kind of person would you really like to be? This is a very important question since the answer we give can make a big difference in the kind of person we become. Do you want to be kind or tough? Do you want to win at any cost or will you give of yourself to others even when that costs you? Do you want to put your life into making war or making peace?

Lent is a time to ask these kinds of questions. It's a time to practice self-discipline, learn self-control so as to become the person we want to be. It's also a time to ask God what kind of person God wants us to be and then to ask for help in becoming that way. Lent is an exciting though serious time. Have a good Lent!

To say that a man is made up of certain chemical elements is a satisfactory description only for those who intend to use him as a fertilizer.
—Herbert J. Muller

His [man's] history is as a tale that is told, and his very monument becomes a ruin.

—Washington Irving (1783–1859)

We must laugh at man to avoid crying for him.

—Napoleon Bonaparte (1769–1821)

All censure of a man's self is oblique praise.

—Samuel Johnson (1709–1784)

Man is not entirely corrupt and depraved but to state that he is, is to come closer to the truth than to state that he is essentially good.

—William McGovern and David Collier

A woman is a woman until the day she dies, but a man's a man only as long as he can.

—Moms Mabley

We must, however, acknowledge, as it seems to me, that man with all his noble qualities . . . still bears in his bodily frame the indelible stamp of his lowly origin.

—Charles Darwin (1809–1882)

No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.

—John Donne (1573?–1631)

The lame man who keeps the right road outstrips the runner who takes a wrong one. Nay, it is obvious that the more active and swift the latter is the further he will go astray.

—Francis Bacon (1561–1626)

The superior man understands what is right; the inferior man understands what will sell.

—Confucius (c. 551–479 B.C.)

The basic problem is that our civilization, which is a civilization of machines, can teach man everything except how to be a man.

—André Malraux

One machine can do the work of fifty ordinary men. No machine can do the work of one extraordinary man.

—Elbert Hubbard

Man is God's highest present development. He is the latest thing in God.

—Samuel Butler

Ah, how unjust to nature and himself/Is thoughtless, thankless, inconsistent man!

—Edward Young (1683–1765)

Man is Creation's masterpiece; but who says so?

—Elbert Hubbard

Apart from man, no being wonders at its own existence.

—Arthur Schopenhauer (1788–1860)

Man—a reasoning rather than a reasonable animal.

—Alexander Hamilton (1757–1804)

Man is a rope connecting animal and superman—a rope over a precipice . . . What is great in man is that he is a bridge and not a goal.

—Friedrich Nietzsche (1844–1900)

[Man] is a brute, only more intelligent than the other brutes, a blind prey to impulses . . . victim to endless illusions, which make his mental existence a burden, and fills his life with barren toil and trouble.

—H. G. Wells

The tragedy and the magnificence of Homo sapiens together rise from the same smoky truth that we alone among the animal species refuse to acknowledge natural law.

—Robert Ardrey

We never stop investigating. We are never satisfied that we know enough to get by. Every question we answer leads on to another question. This has become the greatest survival trick of our species.

—Desmond Morris

Men can do all things if they will.

—Leon Battista Alberti (1404–1472)

Man is designed to be a comprehensivist.

—Buckminster Fuller

The salvation of mankind lies only in making everything the concern of all.

—Alexander I. Solzhenitsyn

There is nothing commonplace in the world except the mental attitude of man.

—Charles Burchfield

The fall of man stands a lie before Beethoven, a truth before Hitler.

—Gregory Corso

“If in the last few years you haven't discarded a major opinion or acquired a new one, check your pulse. You may be dead.”

Gelett Burgess (1866–1951)

“Experience is a comb that nature gives us when we are bald.”

Chinese proverb

Experience is the hardest kind of teacher. It gives you the test first and the lesson afterward.

THE END OF THE ROAD IS BUT A BEND IN THE ROAD

When we feel we have nothing left to give and we are sure that the "song has ended" --
When our day seems over and the shadows fall and the darkness of night has descended --
Where do we go to find the strength to keep on trying --
Where can we find the hand that will dry the tears that the heart is crying --
There's but one place to go -- and that is to God and, dropping all pretense and pride --
We can pour out our problems without restraint and gain strength with Him at our side --
And together we stand at life's crossroads and view what we think is the end --
But God has a much bigger vision and He tells us it's ONLY A BEND --
For the road goes on and is smoother, and the "pause in the song" is a "rest" --
And the part that's unsung and unfinished is the sweetest and richest and best --
So rest and relax and grow stronger, LET GO and LET GOD share your load --
Your work is not finished or ended, you've just come to a "BEND IN THE ROAD."

CHANGE IS PART OF GOD'S UNFOLDING PATTERN OF GOOD FOR ME.

Change

I meet change with faith and courage, for I know that change can bring progress—freedom from a sense of limitation or lack. I keep in mind that God is the one presence and one power at work in me and in my life.

Even though conditions and people around me may change, God's presence and love do not change. My faith in God's wisdom and love assures me that all changes work together for good. I do not resist change because my faith is in God. I know that change is part of God's unfolding pattern of good for me.

I remain flexible and fearless in the face of changing conditions in my employment, relationships, or home life. I flow with the unfolding pattern of good. God's guidance is constantly working through me in the form of divine ideas. My trust in God helps me to know that I am in my right place at the right time to receive my good.

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.—Eccles. 3:1

MY SUCCESS IS ASSURED, FOR GOD IS WITH ME TODAY AND EVERY DAY.

New Day

Today is a new day, and I am a new person. I have renewed faith, sparkling enthusiasm, and power to image. I am filled with a sense of newness. I welcome new ideas and ways to bring about greater good in my world.

If yesterday left anything to be desired, today is the day for new blessings. My outer success reflects my inner attitude of expectancy and faith in God. My accomplishments are orderly and productive. I know that all things are working for good under God's direction. Nothing is impossible. Whatever I choose to do, I know that God is with me, directing me with divine wisdom and sound ideas. I am successful in my chosen goals.

I meet and make new opportunities to give, share, and serve in ways that bless others. I share my joy and faith with people through kind, encouraging words. My success is assured, for God is with me today and every day.

"It is the Lord your God who goes with you; he will not fail you or forsake you."—Deut. 31:6

CHALLENGE A ship, like a human being, moves best when it is slightly athwart the wind, when it has to keep its sails tight and attend to its course. Ships, like men, do poorly when the wind is directly behind, pushing them sloppily on their way so that no care is required in steering or in the management of sails; the wind seems favorable, for it blows in the direction one is heading, but actually, it is destructive, because it induces a relaxation in tension and skill. What is needed is a wind slightly opposed to the ship, for then tension can be maintained, and juices can flow and ideas can germinate; for ships, like men, respond to challenge.

"There is nothing permanent except change."

Heraclitus

Experience is what enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again

—Earl Wilson

A great many people think they are thinking when they are really rearranging their prejudices.

—Edward R. Murrow

Learned men are the masters of knowledge, not the town-
tainheads. —James Northcote (1746–1831)

We see then how far the monuments of wit and learning
are more durable than the monuments of power, or of the
hands. For have not the verses of Homer continued
twenty-five hundred years or more, without the loss of a
syllable or letter; during which time infinite palaces,
temples, castles, cities have been decayed and demolished?
—Francis Bacon (1561–1626)

I am defeated, and know it, if I meet any human being
from whom I find myself unable to learn anything.
—George Herbert Palmer

If a little knowledge is dangerous, where is a man who
has so much as to be out of danger?
—Thomas Henry Huxley (1825–1895)

A little learning is not a dangerous thing to one who does
not mistake it for a great deal. —William Allen White

It is surely harmful to souls to make it a heresy to be-
lieve what is proved. —Galileo Galilei (1564–1642)

By identifying the new learning with heresy, you make
orthodoxy synonymous with ignorance.
—Desiderius Erasmus (1465–1536)

A little learning is a dangerous thing;/Drink deep, or
taste not the Pierian spring.
—Alexander Pope (1688–1744)

A little learning is a dangerous thing, but a lot of ignorance
is just as bad. —Bob Edwards

All that I know I learned after I was thirty.
—Georges Clemenceau

The second half of a man's life is made up of nothing but
the habits he has acquired during the first half.
—Feodor Dostoevski (1821–1881)

**GOD IS WITH ME THROUGHOUT EVERY
CHANGE, GUIDING, PROTECTING, AND
SUPPORTING ME.**

Change

If you were to take a journey,
what kind of road would you
choose? Perhaps you would
want to travel on a peaceful, scenic country
path or a busy city street. You would naturally
seek the road, or the direction, that would
lead you to your highest good.

Are you now approaching a fork in the road
of life you have chosen? New alternatives may
seem confusing or frightening, but know that
God is your constant companion.

When the possibility of change comes to
you, turn within and seek God's presence.
God goes everywhere with you, guiding,
protecting, and supporting you. The peace
you find in turning to God helps you to see
your way clearly. Know without a doubt that
you are traveling on a road of progression
and growth. God is with you every step of the
way.

*If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the
Spirit.* —Gal. 5:25

LEARNING

He not only overflowed with learning, but stood in the
slop. —Sydney Smith (1771–1845)

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or
eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The
greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young.
—Henry Ford

Never learn to do anything: if you don't learn, you'll al-
ways find someone else to do it for you.
—Mark Twain

Learning preserves the errors of the past, as well as its
wisdom. For this reason, dictionaries are public dangers,
although they are necessities.
—Alfred North Whitehead

He learned the arts of riding, fencing, gunnery, /And how
to scale a fortress—or a nunnery.
—George Gordon, Lord Byron (1788–1824)

Personally I'm always ready to learn, although I do not
always like being taught. —Winston Churchill

The brighter you are, the more you have to learn.
—Don Herold

“... not even a god could
change into defeat the
victory of a man who has
vanquished himself.”

Buddha (c.566–480 B.C.)

TODAY IS A DAY OF BEGINNING AGAIN.
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New
Year!

Today is a brand-new day,
but even more it marks the
beginning of a brand-new
year. Our minds and souls respond to this day
on a deep inner level, for the idea of fresh
starts and new beginnings is a magical, beck-
oning one.

In what area do we long for a fresh start?
This is the day to name it and claim it, for to-
day is filled with power and gives us just the
right spiritual impetus to enable us to make
our dreams come true. Let us resolve now to
fill 1987 with wonder-filled, joy-filled, peace-
filled moments of love and truth.

Today marks a new beginning in spiritual
living. If 1986 was a wonderful year of growth
and good, we can be sure that 1987 will un-
fold even greater blessings. If 1986 was less
than we had hoped for, let us see it as prepara-
tion to reap the abundant good that 1987
holds in store.

*If any one is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has
passed away, behold, the new has come.* —II Cor. 5:17

ON AGING

Lord, Thou knowest that I am growing older. Keep me from getting talkative. Release me from trying to straighten out everybody's affairs. Keep me from reciting endless details.

Give me wings to get to the point. Give me grace to listen to the tales of another's pains, but help me to endure them with patience and seal my lips as to my own aches and pains. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally it is possible that I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet. Make me helpful, but not bossy. I want a few friends at the end.

—Governor Thomas Dewey

Is That Devolution, Evolution Or Revolution?

"Revolution starts at home, in your heart, in your refusal to compromise your beliefs and your values."

CONDITIONED Years ago the Denver Zoo had a difficult decision to make. They were offered the gift of a beautiful, large polar bear, but the problem was that there was no existing room for the bear. At the time of the gift the Board of Directors was in the middle of a fund-raising campaign to renovate the zoo. They changed the strategy to include a magnificent habitat for the polar bear in their renovation plans.

In the meantime the bear was put in a small, temporary cage. The space was so small that it could only take three steps, turn around and walk three steps back.

Because of unforeseen delays the construction took three years, but its new home was indeed grand: waterfalls, spaciousness, caves. The bear entered its new home, looked around, took three steps, turned around, and took three steps back, turned around.

It is a parable of human life. The promise to all of us is that life has infinite possibilities, a vast environment to explore. Yet most of us settle for a routine that narrows our life to the dimensions of a prison. What have you settled for?

From "Minister's Musings" in Outlook by Mark Trotter, First Un. Meth. Church of San Diego, submitted by Don Maddox, Corona, CA.

**Beware of
Breakthroughs**

"It's been a chance for me to participate in my own evolution—rather than being just swept along..."

RESPONDING VS. REACTING Responding carries with it the positive idea of moving favorably toward another person. Reacting carries with it the idea of resisting or backing away from another. Whether you respond or react will be determined by your assessment of the person in question. For example, identical twin girls grew up with an alcoholic father. When they reached adulthood, one twin became an alcoholic, the other an abstainer. The sisters were interviewed by a psychologist. The psychologist asked the first twin why she became an alcoholic. She responded, "Well, what do you expect from the daughter of an alcoholic?" In a separate session, the psychologist asked the second twin why she became an abstainer. She said, "Well, what do you expect from the daughter of an alcoholic?"

What happens to us in life is not nearly so important as how we respond to it.

People Power by John Noe, page 72, submitted by David Sell, San Jose, CA.

Why not change the things you can?

A seed is such a miraculous thing,
It can sit on a shelf forever.
But how it knows what to do when
It's stuck in the ground, is what makes it so clever.
It draws nutrients from the soil through its roots,
And draws its force from the sun.
It puts forth a whole lot of blossoms and fruit,
Then reseeds itself when it is done.
Who programmed the seed to know just what to do?
And who put the sun in the sky?
And who put the food in the dirt for the roots?
And who told the bees to come by?
And who makes the water fall from above
To refresh and make everything pure?
Perhaps all of this is a product of love.
And perhaps it happened by choice.
Yeah, sure.

--Philosopher in B.C. comic strip by Johnny Hart

*The book is closed,
The year is done,
The pages full
Of tasks begun.
A little joy,
A little care,
Along with dreams,
Are written there.
This new day brings
Another year,
Renewing hope,
Dispelling fear.
And we may find
Before the end,
A deep content,
Another friend.*

ARCH WARD

A SMILE COSTS NOTHING

A smile costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give. It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever. None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it, and none is so poor that he can't be made rich by it. A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friendship. It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it is nature's best antidote for trouble. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is of no value to anyone until it is given away. Some people are too tired to give you a smile. Give them one of yours as none needs a smile so much as he who has no more to give.

TURNING FAILURES INTO SUCCESSES 10 Major Steps necessary to convert your past failures to successes and achieve many future high goals: 1) Write down the goals you definitely want to achieve. 2) Take a half-hour each day to review your written goals and list ideas that flash into your mind. 3) Keep your mind on what you want and off what you don't want. 4) Picture yourself already in possession of your objective. 5) Try to recognize, relate, assimilate, and APPLY principles from what you see, hear, read, think, or experience. 6) Look for the principles that are applicable to you to develop better physical, mental and moral health, wealth, and the true riches of life. 7) Use suggestion to influence others and self-suggestion with regularity. 8) Memorize quotations that will inspire you. 9) Learn how to help yourself, and share your knowledge and blessings with others. 10) Memorize the self-starter DO IT NOW! When you have a worthy thought and DO IT NOW! flashes to mind, get into action immediately! DO IT NOW!

Taken from "You Failed? That's Terrific!" by W. Clement Stone, Success magazine

AM I WILLING
TO GIVE UP
WHAT I HAVE
IN ORDER TO BE
WHAT
I AM NOT YET?

AM I WILLING
TO LET MY IDEAS
OF MYSELF,
OF MAN,
BE CHANGED?

AM I WILLING
TO FOLLOW
THE SPIRIT OF LOVE
INTO THE DESERT?

M.C. RICHARDS

**I fear change
because I
don't know
where it will
lead. How can
I prepare for
something I
know nothing
about?**

1. There is available to each person a range of psychological strengths and resources. These resources are based in the genetic makeup of the human species and thus, in one sense, "given" for each individual from conception. At the start of life these strengths exist in potential. Only gradually over the course of one's life are these resources realized as consistent characteristics of the personality. The process of the unfolding of the personality does not only occur in infancy or through adolescence but continues over the entire life span. There are, in fact, aspects of the personality which are developed in consistent personal strengths only in the mature years.
2. There is a pattern to be seen in this unfolding, a normal, expectable sequence to the process through which the resources of the personality are called forth. . . .
3. The emergence of each new psychological resource or strength marks a critical time for the individual, a decisive moment in personal development. At a point in an individual's life a particular concern becomes central. This concern raises a significant question to the person, challenges the current state of one's life and one's level of self-understanding. The resolution of this challenge will require a judgment, a choice, a decisive action that will carry important implications for what follows in one's life. As a result of this encounter with myself, I will be different—whether I accept the challenge and move through it to a more confident possession of personality strengths or back away from the challenge and refuse (from fear or lack of support) to face the question it raises about myself.
4. The self-confrontation provoked by each of these developmental challenges will put the individual in contact with contradictory impulses and with both positive and negative aspects of the personality. The resolution that Erikson suggests is not the unwavering suppression of the negative impulse nor an aggressive dominance by the positive. At any stage, maturity is achieved through a blending of these ambiguous dimensions in a "favorable ratio," a personally appropriate synthesis that is true to one's history and personality. Such a synthesis produces a consistent psychological strength that fits into and completes the character of the individual.

EVELYN EATON WHITEHEAD and
JAMES D. WHITEHEAD,
Christian Life Patterns

FEAR NOT THAT YOUR LIFE SHOULD COME
TO AN END. BUT RATHER THAT IS SHALL
NEVER HAVE A BEGINNING.

The man who is too old to learn was probably always too old to learn.

It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.