

We live in a dynamic world - it is constantly moving, evolving, changing. Anything that is living is growing, changing, and evolving. Transition is a continual process of our lives.

Transition - Definition: passage from one state to another, moving, developing, evolving from one style, place or form to another.

The successful leader will be comfortable leading change.

It's not because change is comfortable. It's because it is necessary.

Our walk with Gods is a journey of change and transformation.

We'll get rebuked

Proverbs 6:23 - For the commandment is a lamp. And the law a light;
Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,

We will grow wiser

Proverbs 9:8-9 (NKJV)

[8] Do not correct a scoffer, lest he hate you; Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you. [9] Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; Teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

We will be transformed

Romans 12:2 (NKJV) And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

A. All leadership is helping people through transitions and transformations:

1. ...From the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light.
2. ...From marriage division and pain to unity and joy.
3. ...From sickness to health.
4. ...From poverty to prosperity.

B. Leaders are necessary because people resist change.

1. Israel would have stayed in Egypt if Moses had not led them out.
2. Without Gideon they would have stayed under the Midianites.

C. Because most leaders also resist change most churches will never grow.

1. The church will grow because you lead it to grow.
2. The congregation will never vote in church growth.

Four areas where Gideon had to change before he could lead Israel.

- A. His self image-Judges 6:11-15
 1. Insecurity and poor self-image cripple many leaders.
 2. Things done in self-pity, defensiveness, or fear of man, will stop growth.
 3. Confidence and security will attract other leaders and people to you.

- B. His faith in God.
 1. We must walk by faith, not in the economy, the government ,or the multitude's vote.
 2. Faith is the substance of the church you are hoping for.

- C. His leadership team.-Judges 7:1-7
 1. The first crowd is not the real one.
 2. We don't need a host of leaders, just the right leaders.

- D. His vision-Judges 7:9-15
 1. You must see what God has given you before it can come out of you.
Ex: Abraham - sand, stars
 2. You will only bring forth out of the treasure/vision of your heart.
Matthew 12:35

A successful leader is an expert on transitions, adjustments, and changes.

- A. Some changes just happen.
 1. Social/economic changes.
 2. Culture, style and fad changes.

- B. Some changes you must make happen.
 1. Ministry emphasis, style...
 2. Personnel, organizational strategies...
 3. Buildings, facilities.

- C. Some changes you must keep from happening.
 1. Compromise of excellence, commitment...
 2. A committee/multitude mentality.
 3. A slowing/aging of growth and forward motion.

- D. Your ability to help people "live in transition" will decide how far your ministry will grow.

E. People are fulfilled as they change and grow and move forward to their destiny.

Romans 8:29-30 (KJV)

For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. [30] Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

1. Boredom brings negativity.
2. Stagnation causes sickness and death.

Seven steps to leading people through transition.

- A. Teach change as the way of life when there is no specific change going on.
- B. When change is needed, settle it in yourself first (this may take counsel).
- C. Introduce it to the leaders involved and then to the congregation.
- D. Teach and explain clearly what change you are proposing.
- E. Sell the benefits for everyone that the change will bring.
- F. Make it happen, make sure it is fully instituted.
- G. Remind them of the positive results that the change has produce.