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GLOBAL Thunder Bay Sunday 9:30 am Thursday 10:00 am

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CONTACT INFO

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PREPARE FOR CHANGE



FEBRUARY 2021

"I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead." Philippians 3:13 NLT

Change is inevitable; it's a normal part of our lives. King Solomon wisely stated, "For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1 NLT). We will go through many kinds of seasons in our lives, and we will need to adapt and make changes. For example, winter here in Northwestern Ontario demands us to make changes in our clothing, our vehicles and our activities. Change can be uncomfortable and difficult at times, but we must be willing to make changes in order to move forward successfully in God's plan for us.

BE COMMITTED TO CHANGE

The Apostle Paul was a person committed to change. His focus was on the future, not on the past. He reminds us to forget the past and look forward to what lies ahead. (Philippians 3:13) Throughout his life, he was committed to God's plan, willing to "press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize" (Philippians 3:14). As he neared the time of his death, he had no regrets. "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." (2 Timothy 4:6-7 KJV) Paul was ready for the next season, knowing he had successfully finished his assignment. Like Paul, we should prepare for change and press on to our future.

TRUST AND OBEY

It can be a challenge to leave the familiar and move on to something new. You will never succeed in life if you want to stay the same. God called Abraham out of his familiar surroundings. He had an exciting future prepared for him. "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, **not knowing where he was going.**" (Hebrews II:8 NKJV)

It's difficult to move on to the next level successfully unless you know God has something better for you. You must be willing to leave everything behind in order to move forward. Doing this requires us to trust completely in God, even when we can't see the full picture. God will not show us the whole plan ahead of time. He simply requires our obedience. We can be encouraged as we follow Abraham, our Father of Faith. "He (Abraham) went without knowing where he was going." (Hebrews II:8 NLT)

TIME TO QUIT CRYING

A leader I admire greatly was known for this statement: "The things you cry about today, you'll laugh about tomorrow." We need to remember that our situation is not permanent. We all experience seasons of difficulty and grief, but God wants to lead us through them. This is what happened to the prophet Samuel. God challenged him to move on from his disappointment about King Saul. "You have mourned long enough for Saul. I have rejected him as king of Israel, so fill your flask with olive oil and go to Bethlehem. Find a man named Jesse who lives there, for I have selected one of his sons to be my king" (I Samuel 16:1 NLT). God wanted Samuel to move on to the next phase of his assignment. There's a time for mourning, but that time has an expiration date. Sometimes we become stuck in a state of grief. Our emotions about the past can become so debilitating that we can't move ahead in life. God wants to heal us and help us move past our failures and disappointments. You may be mourning a failed plan, like Samuel was. Know that God always has a better plan for you and He wants you to get to it. We have assignments to fulfill and people to minister to. God wants us to be productive citizens in His Kingdom!

EMBRACE CHANGE

In conclusion, change is a normal and necessary part of life. Although it can be uncomfortable and difficult, we should embrace change, especially when we know the Lord is initiating it. Making changes will open us to new opportunities and new arenas of blessing. Like Abraham, God wants to lead us to a place in life where we can experience the inheritance He has planned. We must be open to change; willing to embrace the future and not cling to the past. When we do this, we can move forward to fulfill the assignment God has prepared for us. "For we

are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10 NKJV)



Miigwetch, Dr. Roma J. Fisher

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BOOK OFFER

February's offer is Where is God in My Storm by Kenneth W. Hagin. This book will help you build your faith and navigate successfully through troubled times. To receive your copy, you can mail your donation including your name and mailing address. To give by credit card, call our office at 807-344-1956 or the Helpline during Sunday broadcasts. (Offer expires end of March)

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NEW FAITH BOOK COMING SOON!

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We invite you to join Pastor Roma at Faith City Church. Service times: Sunday 10:30 am, Wednesday 7:00 pm

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