

**Next: Navigating Change**  
**Pastor Dennis Rouse**  
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**Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV**

*“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. SEE, I AM DOING A NEW THING! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.”*

**The Big Question:** “How’s this going to affect me?”

**The Reality of Change:** If we don’t change, we don’t grow!

**3 Kinds of Christians:**

1. Christians who don’t change (Produce one-generation churches)
2. Christians who change with the world (Produce carnal churches)
3. Christians who change the world

**Luke 5:36-39 NIV**

*He told them this parable: “No one tears a piece out of a new garment to patch an old one. Otherwise, they will have torn the new garment, and the patch from the new will not match the old. And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for they say, ‘THE OLD IS BETTER.’”*

**Tools to Help Navigate Change:**

1. Attitude is everything.

“We cannot choose how many years we will live, but we can choose how much life those years will have.”

### **Proverbs 23:7 NKJV**

*For as he thinks in his heart, so is he...*

“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, education, money, circumstances, failures, successes, than what other people think, say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company, a church, or a home. The remarkable thing is that we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past nor can we change the fact that people will act a certain way. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our ATTITUDE. I’m convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it. And so it is with you. WE ARE IN CHARGE OF OUR ATTITUDE.” —

**CHUCK SWINDOLL**

“A negative thinker sees a difficulty in every opportunity.”

“A positive thinker sees an opportunity in every difficulty.”

### **Philippians 4:4-9 NIV**

*Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.*

2. Keep your heart pliable with God.

The key to pliability is meekness.

**Meekness:** a combination of humility and teachability

**Matthew 5:5 NKJV**

*“Blessed are the MEEK, for they shall inherit the earth.”*

The METHOD is always changing.

The MESSAGE never changes.

3. Be willing to give up what you want for the sake of what God wants.

**John 12:24-25 CEV**

*“I tell you for certain that a grain of wheat that falls on the ground will never be more than one grain unless it dies. But if it dies, it will produce lots of wheat. If you love your life, you will lose it. If you give it up in this world, you will be given eternal life.”*