



Let's Talk  
**CHANGE**  
DEVOTIONALS

A product of Celebrate Change Ministries  
[www.CelebrateChange.org](http://www.CelebrateChange.org)

---

**MOVING ON AND BEYOND, PART I**

---

Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery | November 30, 2016

*"But he said unto them, I must preach the good tidings of the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for therefore was I sent." Luke 4:43, ASV*

A dear family member sent this to me and I feel it is worth being shared with you. I personally can relate to what it conveys and perhaps someone else may be encouraged to respond to God's call to move on and beyond:

Temptations didn't stop challenging Jesus after his 40-day ordeal in the desert. After being rejected in Nazareth, he (Jesus) became hugely popular in Capernaum. The people asked him to stay, because they wanted more of what he could give. Should he give it to them? That would certainly seem like the caring thing to do. Plus, his ministry could thrive there, since he was well-liked. It was easy, comfortable, and he was familiar with the community. It offered the opportunity to accomplish more. The location was ideal, because Capernaum was a popular trading port and many people passed through on their way to many varied places, and they could spread the word widely.

The Holy Spirit nudged him during his prayer time: Don't stay. It's time to move on. How easy it is to stay where we're accepted, where we feel needed and wanted, where we're liked. It feels so right that we don't even ask if it's God's will that we remain in the same place and ministry. If He nudges us to make a change, we disbelieve it because it doesn't make sense. And so we hold ourselves back from moving on. We stay in our current jobs, even when God has something better in mind. We stay in the same small Christian community, even when God wants us to grow into leadership and start a new group so that more people can get involved. We stay where it's easy and familiar and comfortable, even when God tries to stretch us into new growth and higher levels of trust. We stay where our egos get stroked, even when the humble walk of holiness means turning away from those who know us and appreciate us, so that we can meet and minister to new people.

If you've been comfortable with anything for very long—especially in ministry—very likely God's inviting you to move on and beyond. Will you say yes to following Jesus wherever he leads? Even when it doesn't make sense or feel easy?

*Residing in Los Angeles, CA, Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery is the Emeritus Pastor of Home Assembly Church in Los Angeles, is the founder of "Celebrate Change Ministries" and the author of "My Be Attitude: Who Be You?", which is available online in softcover or eBook at [MyBeAttitude.org](http://MyBeAttitude.org), Xulon Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Dr. Ussery is available for national speaking engagements, empowerment seminars, and lectures. For more information, [CelebrateChange.org](http://CelebrateChange.org) | [Info@CelebrateChange.org](mailto:Info@CelebrateChange.org) | 310-436-6336 x216.*

LIKE us at [Facebook.com/CelebrateChangeMinistries](https://www.facebook.com/CelebrateChangeMinistries) | FOLLOW us at [Twitter.com/VanessaUssery](https://twitter.com/VanessaUssery)