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POSITIVE GROWTH

I spent time last week visiting a senior active living community to get a sense of what that type of living could be like. It was really a beautiful place, with a diversity of recreational activities that range from outdoor golf and tennis to indoor fitness, swimming, spa/sauna, arts and crafts. There were walking paths throughout with a wonderful view and landscaping to enjoy. It is preferred that the residents be fifty plus to live there. Charles and I really had a wonderful time. It did make me think about how my life is changing. It's quite amazing to see one's life shift from extremely busy to extremely slow. The drastic change was not what I really expected. However, it appears this is the change God has ordained for me.

I daily spend time reading the word and communicating in prayer with the Lord. I spend time grocery shopping at least twice a week, each morning I prepare breakfast for my husband before he goes to work, and weekly doing laundry and house chores. This is a real change for me as I have become a housewife. You may read this and say, "So what, sounds pretty normal to me." It is far from my norm. The real point I wish to share is our lives can make such extreme changes that it can be mind boggling. It could cause you to wonder what is the objective or purpose for what God is allowing to happen. Granted my situation is not earth shaking, but it is **mind shaking**. Perhaps you have a mind shaking change in your life or know someone who feels that way.

Bottom Line: Everyone has to experience change in their life. The objective is respond to the change wherein the Holy Spirit is able to produce within us the growth needed for our spiritual development. It is important to experience **positive growth**. It doesn't mean we understand all the intricacies of our spiritual development. However, we must not allow our carnal mind to weave negative thinking to hinder positive growth. The reality that God has our best interest at heart is essential to positive growth even when the change seems mind shaking. There are many hidden things in our heart that we are not aware of but God sees it all. Evidently, life changes that boggle our mind produce a long term outcome that serves God's purpose. He knows it will result in developing in us what it takes to be like Him. *Thank you Jesus for positive growth!*

Residing in Fort Worth, TX, Dr. Vanessa Dantzler Ussery is the Emeritus Pastor of Home Assembly Church in Los Angeles and currently serves as its Chief Executive Officer. She is also 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, Xulon Press, Amazon and Barnes & Noble. Dr. Ussery is available for national speaking engagements, empowerment seminars, and lectures.

Info@CelebrateChange.org / 866-232-8176