



change.

Change does not make you not you.

To admit that a change is needed does not make you not you.

Whether it's bending or breaking.

Whether it's growing or failing.

Whether it's moving forward or finally taking a moment to pause.

Change is part of this.

In some ways, though it may seem backwards, to resist this change is actually what could make you not you. Instead, you become an image of you. A representation of you. Of who you were.

I think of stories of Abraham, who stepped out away from who he was, what he knew and even had his name changed, to go from childless to the father of nations, or of Moses, who gave every reason why he was not supposed to lead and yet led Israel out of Egypt, or of David, who went from shepherd to king, or of Peter, who went from a fisherman to the rock on which the church was built.

It would seem strange to imagine that they were just ready to be what each of them ended up becoming from the start.

Some were resistant to that change.

They weren't perfect. They messed up.

And yet through them, in them, God took what was not yet there, what was not yet ready, and changed who they were into who they are known as.

God called them into something, something that they may not have been able to see in themselves, something that they may not have felt ready for all the time.

God was also faithful. Faithful as they became something more than they were.

Change is part of this.

Change does not make you not you.

Breaking does not make you not you.



Failing does not make you not you.
Feeling lost does not make you not you.
Being frustrated does not make you not you.

“Today you are you, that’s truer than true, there’s no one alive, more youer than you.” - Dr. Seuss

It takes faith to lean in to change, into change that we don’t feel ready for, that we don’t feel qualified for. It takes faith to lean in to change that affects us at the core of how we see and know ourselves.

God is there in the change.
God is faithful in the change.
God is working in the change.

Be you.
Where ever you are.
Even if that you is changing.



continue the conversation questions:

Is change something that you would say you are excited for or more afraid of?

Have seasons of change in your life affected the way you see yourself?

Is it hard for you to trust God in these seasons of change?



a place to start:

God, my shepherd! I don't need a thing! You have bedded me down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools to drink from. True to your word, you let me catch my breath and send me in the right direction. Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I'm not afraid when you walk at my side. Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure. You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my enemies. You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing. Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life. I'm back home in the house of God for the rest of my life.

[psalm 23. the message]

Is there anyplace I can go to avoid your Spirit? to be out of your sight? If I climb to the sky, you're there! If I go underground, you're there! If I flew on morning's wings to the far western horizon, You'd find me in a minute—you're already there waiting! Then I said to myself, "Oh, he even sees me in the dark! At night I'm immersed in the light!" It's a fact: darkness isn't dark to you; night and day, darkness and light, they're all the same to you. Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother's womb. I thank you, High God—you're breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration—what a creation! You know me inside and out, you know every bone in my body; You know exactly how I was made, bit by bit, how I was sculpted from nothing into something. Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth; all the stages of my life were spread out before you, The days of my life all prepared before I'd even lived one day. Your thoughts—how rare, how beautiful! God, I'll never comprehend them!

[from psalm 139. the message]

Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life. Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies.

[philipians 4:6-9. the message]



thoughts / questions / prayers:

need quicker answers? email - david@storytellersac.com