Becoming a Change Agent

6 Phases of Development

Os Hillman
"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. “
Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it (Isa 2:2).

God will use change agents to establish His Kingdom
RECLAIMING THE 7 MOUNTAINS OF CULTURE

Arts & Entertainment  Business  Education  Family  Government  Media  Religion
Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.
Every follower of Christ yearns to experience His presence and His power and to be used in His Kingdom. What is required for us to experience this?
How God Prepares Change Agents – 6 Key Factors

1. **Practical Work Experience** - God uses practical work experience to prepare His change agents for their ultimate assignment.

2. **Divine Circumstances** - God initiates a personal encounter with the change agent, often through a crisis.

3. **Character Development** – God takes the change agent through a series of character tests designed to develop humility and trust.
4. **Isolation Period** – A time of separation from past dependencies realigns values to a biblical economy

5. **Influence** – Change agents are "problem solvers" through invention and entrepreneurship

6. **Change Happens** - By a Small Number of Change Agents Banding Together
What is a change agent?

Someone or something that impacts the status quo

- Adolph Hitler
- Saddam Hussein
- Charles Darwin
Why we need a new generation of change agents

What will America look like in 75 years if we do not reclaim our spiritual roots?

- America will cease to be good; cease to be great
- We will no longer be a world power
- We’ll lose religious freedoms
- We’ll lower our standard of living – economic downturns (Current crisis is a mere tremor of things to come)
Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place — unless you repent. Rev 2:5-6
And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?" Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you."
You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you." And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt" (Gen 41:38-41).
England’s William Wilberforce
"Oh, no single piece of our mental world is to be hermetically sealed off from the rest, and there is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: 'Mine!'"
Rosa Parks, who decided in 1955 not to give up her seat in the back of the bus in Montgomery, Alabama
Johnny, a young man who has down-syndrome and works in a grocery store as a bag boy

A change agent is not limited to age, race, position, or economic status.
1. **Practical Work Experience** - God uses practical work experience to prepare His change agents for their ultimate assignment.
1. Practical Work Experience

Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown men. Prov 22:29

God was a worker - worked 6 days in Genesis.
“In the beginning we do not train for God, we train for work, for our own aims; but as we go with God, we lose all our own aims and are trained into God's purpose. Unless practical work is appointed by God, it will prove a curse.”

Oswald Chambers
Calling
Change Agent Influence

My World

My Life/Faith

My Country

My Family

My Community

My Work
Col 3:23-25
And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.
"When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the Lord your God."
4 Dimensions of Faith Works

So he said to me, "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty (Zech 4:6)

Gospel of the Kingdom

Moses

"Spoken Word"

"Speak to the Rock!"

"Speak to the books"

Gospel of Salvation

Principle-based Formula – “10 Steps"

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye.” Ps 32:8

Implement purely on skill

Egypt – “Flesh/Carnal”

Esau

Life of Sin
He trains my hands for war... Ps 144:1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Training</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David</td>
<td>Shepherd - lion, bear – King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moses</td>
<td>Trained in ways of Egypt – 40 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Wilberforce</td>
<td>Law, politics</td>
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<td>George Washington Carver</td>
<td>Agriculture, inventor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johannes Gutenberg was a</td>
<td>German goldsmith and inventor best known for the Gutenberg press</td>
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Mentoring

- Moses mentored Joshua
- Elijah mentored Elisha
- Paul mentored Timothy

No 3rd generation
2. Divine Circumstances - God initiates a personal encounter with the change agent, often through a crisis
Conflict to Change Agent

- David vs Goliath
- Martin Luther vs Catholic Church
- William Wallace vs England
- William Wilberforce vs slavery

Change agent are rarely looking to be change agents
Personal Encounters with God

- **Moses** - burning bush
- **King Saul** - Samuel the prophet
- **Paul** was blinded by Jesus

Cyprus
Whenever God is about to release something significant through you there is an oppressive warfare over it!
When the sun was setting, a deep sleep overcame Abram, and a horror (a terror, a shuddering fear) of great darkness assailed and oppressed him.

Gen 15:12   AMP
Then God said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

Gen 15:13-16
3. **Character Development** - God takes the change agent through a series of character tests designed to develop humility, trust and intimacy with God.
And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not (Deut 8:2-3).
God Tests the Heart

“I know also, my God, that You test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness” (1 Chron 29:17).

David didn’t pass several tests.

- Flunked test - Bathsheba
- Flunked the test on numbering the troops—70,000 people lost their lives
- Flunked the test on how to bring the Ark of the Covenant into the city

David was a “simple fool”
Joseph’s 4 Tests

1. Betrayal
2. Sexual
3. Perseverance
4. Stewardship

“For it is not an enemy who reproaches me; Then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me; then I could hide from him. But it was you, a man my equal, my companion and my acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, and walked to the house of God in the throng” (Ps 55:12-14).
Testing is designed to prepare us for greater things.

• For You have tried us, O God; You have refined us as silver is refined. You brought us into the net; You laid an oppressive burden upon our loins. You made men ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water, Yet You brought us out into a place of abundance (Ps 66:10-12) NASU.
“Blessed be the Lord my Rock, Who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle” (Ps 144:1).
Crisis and pain leads to greater commitment, obedience and intimacy
Pain is designed to encourage obedience that leads to intimacy with God

- Psalm 119:67 “Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word.”

- Hebrews 5:8-9 “Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”
Death is this ultimate goal

We always carry about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. 2 Cor 4:10-12
The higher you go on the mountain of influence, the greater the scrutiny.
And it came to pass on the way, at the encampment, that the Lord met him and sought to kill him. Then Zipporah took a sharp stone and cut off the foreskin of her son and cast it at Moses' feet, and said, "Surely you are a husband of blood to me!" So He let him go. Then she said, "You are a husband of blood!" — because of the circumcision (Ex 4:24-26).
“Life can be totally out of order, but if your marriage relationship is good, you can handle it. However, if everything is going great and your marriage is not good, no success will satisfy. You’ll operate from a place of emotional despair and inner turmoil.”
Godly Change Agents Often Are Called to Operate from a Place of Weakness
“And He said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong” (2 Cor 12:9-10).
“God allows defects to remain in the dearest of His saints so He can preserve that saint from corruption and ‘hide him in the secret of His presence.’

Yet, God gives them the grace to repel the arrows of accusation and personal attack to fulfill His purposes in their lives but uses these attacks to keep them humble.”

- Jeanne Guyon, a writer in the 1600s
4. Isolation Period – God often initiates a time of separation from past dependencies to realign values to a biblical economy

*Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and will bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfort to her. I will give her her vineyards from there, and the Valley of Achor as a door of hope* (Hos 2:14-15).
“But when He was alone with His own disciples, He explained everything” (Mark 4:34).

Times of isolation with God are needed.
I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden riches of secret places, That you may know that I, the Lord, Who calls you by your name, Am the God of Israel (Isa 45:3).

- John Bunyan, *Pilgrims Progress*

- Apostle John, banished to the Island of Patmos, and wrote the book of Revelation
Wait, Wait, Wait

- **Abraham** had to wait for Isaac until it was God’s timing, not his.

- **Moses** waited 40 years before God spoke to him at the burning bush.

- **Joseph** waited 13 years until he was freed from captivity into his destiny that resulted in an 81 year career as a change agent in the nation of Egypt and salvation and birth of Israel.

- **Elijah** waited beside the Brook of Cherith before he was physically and emotionally strong enough to continue his mission.
• **Paul** was hidden away for 3 years in Arabia before he was released into his assignment.

• **John Bunyan**, extended 12 year prison sentence for preaching the Gospel.

• **Nelson Mandela** of South Africa waited 27 years in prison
We must avoid lighting our own fires in the midst of dark times

Who is among you who [reverently] fears the Lord, who obeys the voice of His Servant, yet who walks in darkness and deep trouble and has no shining splendor [in his heart]? Let him rely on, trust in, and be confident in the name of the Lord, and let him lean upon and be supported by his God. Behold, all you [enemies of your own selves] who attempt to kindle your own fires [and work out your own plans of salvation], who surround and gird yourselves with momentary sparks, darts, and firebrands that you set aflame! — walk by the light of your self-made fire and of the sparks that you have kindled [for yourself, if you will]! But this shall you have from My hand: you shall lie down in grief and in torment” (Isa 50:10-11 AMP).
• God is telling us to trust Him for the light in our dark times instead of manufacturing our own light. When we find ourselves in the dark time of testing, it is important to rely on God to light the way. Manufacturing our own light brings judgment from God. Joseph did not try to manufacture the light through the darkness of his trial. He simply obeyed God. God illuminated his path at the right time.
God uses enlarged trials to produce enlarged saints so He can put them in enlarged places!

*He brought me out into a spacious place; He rescued me because He delighted in me*

- 2 Samuel 22:20
5. *Problem Solvers* - Change agents are often "problem solvers" through invention and entrepreneurship.
Johannes Gutenberg, the inventor of the printing press 1455
Johannes Gutenberg

• “Religious truth is imprisoned in a small number of manuscripts, which confine instead of spread this public treasure. Let us break the seed which binds these holy things; let us give wings to Truth in order that she may win every god that comes into the world by her word, no longer written at vast expense, but multiplied everlastingly by a machine which never wearies.”
Johannes Gutenberg

“It is a press, certainly, but a press from which shall flow in inexhaustible Streams or the most abundant and most marvelous ‘liquor that has ever flowed to relieve the thirst of man! Through it, God will spread His Word; a spring of pure truth shall flow from like a new star it shall scatter the darkness of ignorance, and cause a light hitherto fore unknown to shine among men.”
Ex 31:1-5

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: "See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze, in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship.
George Washington Carver

- 300 marketable products – peanut
- 100 sweet potato
- Transformed southern economy
Al Weiss
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6. **Networks** - Change happens by a small number of change agents banding together.
Becoming a Change Agent

“Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of God?”

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. You shall be in charge…’ Gen 41:38, 39
1. Personal transformation is first

“I will be careful to lead a blameless life…I will walk in my house with a blameless heart. I will set before my eyes no vile thing. The deeds of faithless men I hate; they will not cling to me.”

Psalm 101-2-3
2. Begin to engage the culture through dialogue.
   i.e. Master Media A&A, Christians in Media

3. We need a biblical theology of work and calling
   churches, individuals
4. **Educate the next generation** and encourage careers in 7mtn sectors. Christian colleges and universities need a 7 mountain curriculum with industry insiders teach the courses.

5. **Serve the Community**
   We gain influence when we as the collective Church show unity and generosity to impact social ills in our communities – pastors, intercessors, marketplace leaders.

6. **Develop Key Influencer Strategies**
   Educate and mentor key influencers who are already operating at tops of mountains. Build relationships.
7. Be a Part of a Network
Be a part of a key network which allows you to have a collective voice and influence. Lone rangers cannot take a mountain by themselves.

8. Support Worthy Organizations and Initiatives with Time & Money

9. Conferences to Cast the Vision to the Marketplace Leaders

10. Move at a new dimension with God. Manifest His glory. i.e. Moses
WANTED!

DEAD OR ALIVE
Prayer
Further Study