

MESSAGE

Proactive Correction

REFLECTION

If leadership involves movement, preferably forward movement, toward a desired destination (goal, vision, promising future, fulfilling potential) then this will involve change! Why, you ask? Because if something requires leadership, this infers that it is not where it needs to or would like to be (i.e. A place short of its destination).

For something to get to its destination, it cannot remain the same. It needs to change in some way. We know this is true because if you leave it how it is, subject to the natural course of events, and it reaches its destination, then there was no leadership needed in the first place. However, when something is not at its required destination, it will not get there, unless it is lead there. This means that proactive correction needs to be made to its course, and 'proactive correction' is a nice way of saying change!

So what's the big deal? Why even talk about change? Because leadership is movement, which results in change and people hate change! Not sure if that's true? What if something special and valuable to you, suddenly didn't exist? A relationship perhaps, maybe a hobby or past time, maybe a Spiritual avenue of growth, maybe an opportunity you're currently enjoying. Change is difficult and as leaders we are change agents! We are responsible for that change, this means that when people struggle with the change we have implemented, because we want to move them forward, we are to blame! And you will be blamed!

There is an old adage which says, "If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always gotten." It's true, change is necessary for forward movement but it should never be change for the sake of change! Always, in consultation with God, know beforehand exactly why you are changing what you are, be aware of the cost of that change and know that there will undoubtedly be some resistance to it. Next week we'll explore more about the 'why' of *change* or *proactive correction*.

CHALLENGE

In answering this question you will see how to help others through change: How would you react to something you value being changed and what would you need to occur, hear, have, see in order for you to be able to accept it?

As leaders, we are involved in many different forms of change, here are some to ponder:

Encouraging and challenging someone to change a destructive behaviour pattern.

Putting an end to a program or group that people may have grown attached to.

Changing the method and 'tradition' behind doing something a certain way.

Changing the name of something.
Influencing and changing a destructive culture that has become the norm.

Changing personnel and the roles of others.

Changing our own style of leadership.

Changing internal structures.

Changing habits that underpin certain qualities and behaviors in our own lives.

This list could go on, but you are beginning to get the picture. These changes are not bad things, bad change is decided by the motives behind it!

If you want to make enemies try to change something
– Wilson's Law of Politics

The most significant change in a person's life is a change of attitude—right attitudes produce right actions.
–William J. Johnson