

After Sacrifice, Then Comes Change

Every so often, there has been someone in history who thought there needed to be a change in the world. Many times, that someone sacrificed to see that change be made. If I saw something that needed to be changed, would I be as sacrificial as those people in history were? I believe that I could sacrifice for a cause, and I would be willing to sacrifice because whatever I am sacrificing would not be as important as the cause I am sacrificing for. I often volunteer for causes sponsored by the Green Club at school and my church. The biggest sacrifices I could make that could be beneficial to causes are giving up some of my old behaviors, devoting my time, and letting go of fear. Sacrifices are necessary because without them there would be no change.

Primarily, I would sacrifice some of my old behaviors. This is an important sacrifice because if you want something to be changed you have to be willing to change yourself. As Gandhi said, "Be the change you want to see in the world." If I am trying to encourage people to go green I have to go green too. I have to take shorter showers, clean up the neighborhood, use less energy, and stop doing things that hurt the environment. By sacrificing the things I used to do that were not helpful for my cause, I become an example to others. When people see the different person I have become I inspire them to do the same. Once other people join in soon enough there will come a change.

Next, I would sacrifice my time. This is a crucial sacrifice because the time I waste on insignificant things could be spent on promoting my cause. I would spend my time letting others

know what my causes are, and informing them why they should be important to them too. If people are really committed to their cause they should try to make time to do some things advantageous for the cause. I plant flowers and pick up trash to promote neighborhood cleanliness. I also volunteer with young kids to keep them out of trouble. Sacrificing time is one of the biggest sacrifices to make, but it is also one of the most vital.

Lastly, I would sacrifice my fear. Sacrificing fear means giving up one thing that could hold me back because fear is a mechanism that people use to as an excuse not to do something. If I give up fear I will be overcoming the biggest obstacle in my way. When Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights activists marched they overcame their fear. They knew there would be people trying to stop them, but they marched anyway. When I began peer tutoring I was fearful that the students would not listen to me. I overcame that fear, and eventually those kids I tutored were doing much better in school. If I want my cause to be heard I have to let go of fear, but if I want nothing to change I can keep being scared.

In conclusion, I would be willing to sacrifice because that is the only way for my cause to be noticed. If all of the people in history did not sacrifice the world would not have changed, instead it would have stayed the same. The major sacrifices I am willing to make are my old behaviors, my time, and my fear. Sacrifice may seem like something that would be too hard to do, but it is only hard if you do not have a worthy cause to sacrifice for.