

Life's Change Points: Embracing God and Those Shaping Surprises

THE GREATEST "CHANGE POINT" EVER

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church



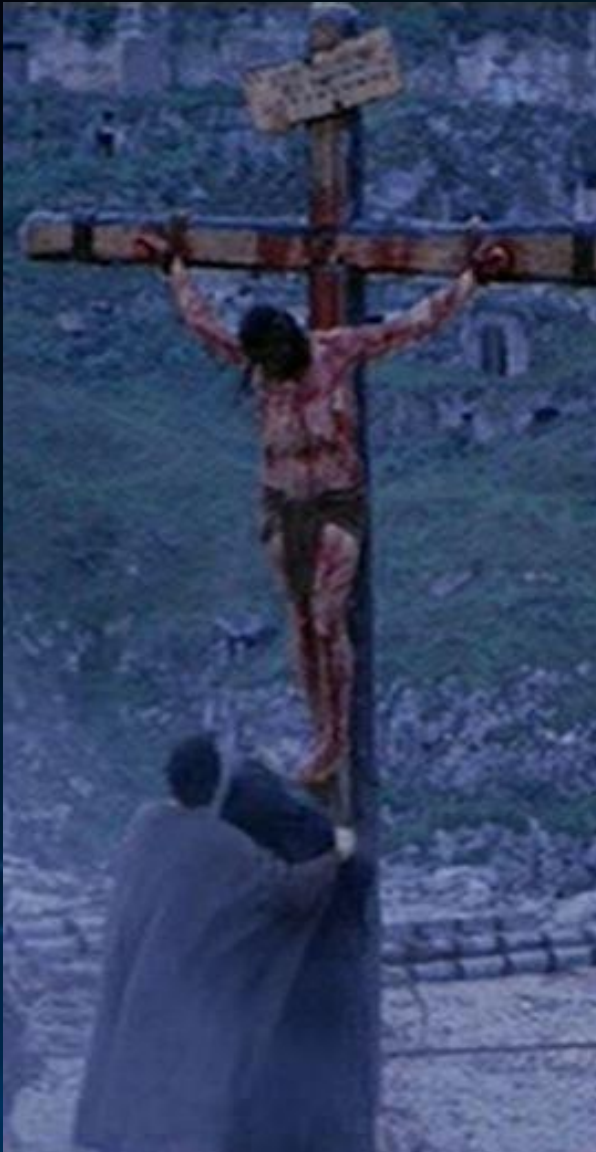
from the film,
"The Passion of the Christ"

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Surprises in Life’s CHANGE POINTS

- Life will never be the same.
- What seems like total defeat, total failure, can become complete joy and unexpected fulfillment.
- The **STEPS** God takes to walk us through life’s **change points** are able to transform not only our situation, but our character, our focus, and our relationships.



from the film,
“The Passion of the Christ”

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Dear woman, here is your son,” ²⁷ and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

²⁸ Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”

John 19:25-28 (NIV1984)

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Life is made up of chapters...each one unique, with its own special focus

Personal Example: “John or Mary Smith”

Childhood

Teenage
Years

College

Early
Career

Marriage
&
Parenting

Grand-
parenting!

Retirement

?

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Life is made up of chapters...each one unique, with its own special focus, **connected by LIFE’S CHANGE POINTS**

Personal Example: “John or Mary Smith”

Childhood

Teenage
Years

College

Early
Career

Marriage
&
Parenting

Grand-
parenting!

Retirement

?

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

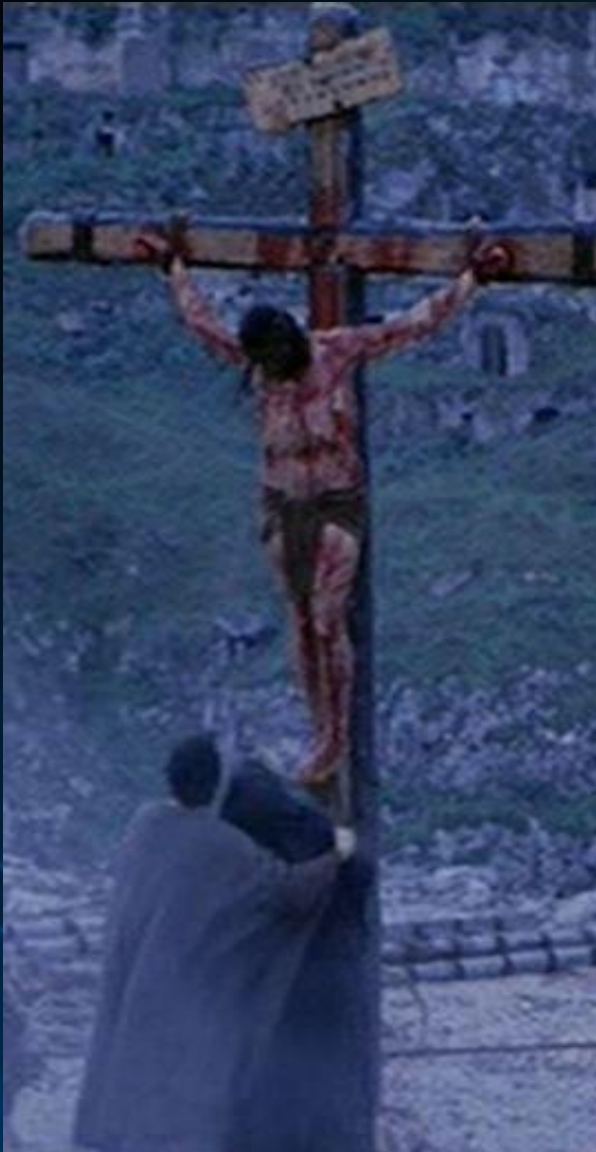
Mt. Vernon Christian Church

LIFE'S CHANGE POINTS have some characteristics in common. They tend to include...

- A definite change from what was previously
- A decrease of what has often been comfortable
- An uncertainty about what lies ahead; longing for...
- A sense of being disoriented, uncertain what to do
- A need for stability, some type of anchor, or keel
- A change in perspective, priorities; growth in character

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church



from the film,
“The Passion of the Christ”

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Life is made up of chapters...each one unique, with its own special focus, **connected by LIFE'S CHANGE POINTS**

Biblical Example: John (the disciple)

(Unknown
Childhood)

Fisherman

Disciple
of Jesus

Disciple /
Apostle



Caring
Son to
Mary

Exiled to
Patmos

Received
Revelation

Father
in Faith

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Life is made up of chapters...each one unique, with its own special focus, **connected by LIFE'S CHANGE POINTS**

Biblical Example: John (the disciple)

(Unknown
Childhood)

Fisherman

Disciple
of Jesus

Disciple /
Apostle



Caring
Son to
Mary

Exiled to
Patmos

Received
Revelation

Father
in Faith



THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Life is made up of chapters...each one unique, with its own special focus, **connected by LIFE’S CHANGE POINTS**

Biblical Example: Mary (mother of Jesus)

(Unknown
Childhood)

Pregnant
Bride

Young
Mother

Fugitive
Mother

Returning
Mother

Single (?)
Mother

Letting-Go
Mother

Amazed
Mother

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Life is made up of chapters...each one unique, with its own special focus, **connected by LIFE’S CHANGE POINTS**

Biblical Example: Mary (mother of Jesus)

(Unknown
Childhood)

Pregnant
Bride

Young
Mother

Fugitive
Mother

Returning
Mother

Single (?)
Mother

Letting-Go
Mother

Amazed
Mother

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Life is made up of chapters...each one unique, with its own special focus, **connected by LIFE'S CHANGE POINTS**

Biblical Example: Jesus

Birth in Bethlehem

Early Years in Egypt

Growing-Up in Nazareth

(Care for Household, Mother?)

3 Years of Public Ministry

40 Days of Resurrected Life

Seated with God the Father

Returning Savior and Lord

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Life is made up of chapters...each one unique, with its own special focus, **connected by LIFE'S CHANGE POINTS**

Biblical Example: Jesus

Birth in Bethlehem

Early Years in Egypt

Growing-Up in Nazareth

(Care for Household, Mother?)

3 Years of Public Ministry

40 Days of Resurrected Life

Seated with God the Father

Returning Savior and Lord

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Dear woman, here is your son,” ²⁷ and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

²⁸ Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”

John 19:25-28 (NIV1984)

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

STEPS in the midst of changing chapters...this is what God often does during life's change points that makes it possible for us to thrive.

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

STEPS in the midst of changing chapters...this is what God often does during life's change points that makes it possible for us to thrive. **God...**

- **S**peaks
- **T**ransforms
- **E**ncourages
- **P**rovides
- **S**teers

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

²⁵ Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, “Dear woman, here is your son,” ²⁷ and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

²⁸ Later, knowing that all was now completed, and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, “I am thirsty.”

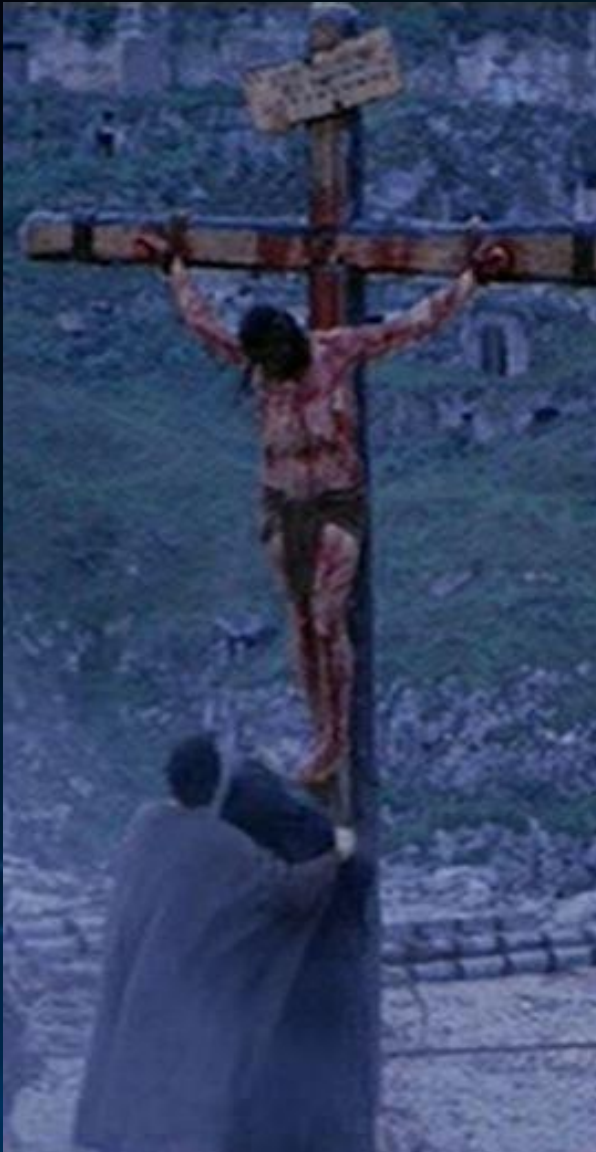
John 19:25-28 (NIV1984)

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Surprises in Life’s CHANGE POINTS

- Life will never be the same.
- What seems like total defeat, total failure, can become complete joy and unexpected fulfillment.
- The **STEPS** God takes to walk us through life’s **change points** are able to transform not only our situation, but our character, our focus, and our relationships.



from the film,
“The Passion of the Christ”

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

STEPS in the midst of changing chapters...this is what God often does during life's change points that makes it possible for us to thrive. **God...**

- **S**peaks (to Mary, John, and Jesus)
- **T**ransforms (Mary, John, Jesus)
- **E**ncourages (Mary, John, Jesus)
- **P**rovides (for Mary, John, Jesus)
- **S**teers (Mary, John, Jesus)

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

STEPS in the midst of changing chapters...this is what God often does during life's change points that makes it possible for us to thrive. **God...**

- **S**peaks
- **T**ransforms
- **E**ncourages
- **P**rovides
- **S**teers

THE GREATEST “CHANGE POINT” EVER

Mt. Vernon Christian Church



from the film,
“The Passion of the Christ”