

PERSEVERANCE IN THE FACE OF CHALLENGES

Lord's Flock Praise & Worship Topic

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There are constant struggles that we face in life. We have responsibilities, obligations, career, relationships, and work-related problems. In addition to these, there are spiritual struggles too. But we also toil because we have certain dreams. This is the reality of life; there are many reasons why people give up. However, God uses these challenges to form us and strengthen our faith, just like what He did to Job.

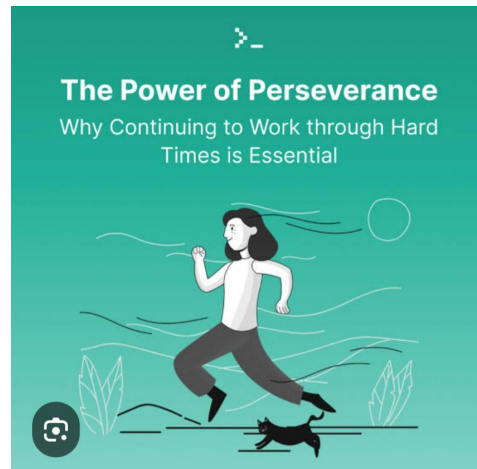
A. Reasons Why People Give Up:

1. Frustration / Burnout – Burnout is physical, emotional, or mental exhaustion. People who are exhausted are most likely to give up. Many individuals become frustrated when expectations are not met, progress is slow, or obstacles arise.
2. Running out of patience – In order to be able to persevere in times of difficulties, one must recognize that setbacks and failures are part of life. Thus, it is necessary to be steadfast and patient, and focus on the goal.
3. Lack of or misplaced motivation - To be motivated, we need to love what we are doing. There must be genuine interest and enthusiasm for what we are pursuing. In our ministry, if there is no love for God, giving up would be easy. Whatever we do, we must do with a happy heart.

B. The Story of Job: He had a comfortable life; he was prosperous. He was an upright, faithful, and blessed man. God allowed Satan to test Job. Everything was taken away from Job: family, possessions, and health. Even his wife urged him to denounce God, but Job protested and endured his suffering. Instead, he said, "The Lord has given, the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1: 21-22). In the end, God intervened and restored all that Job lost.

In the eyes of faith, God allows all these trials for us to grow more. Some things need to be taken

away to make way for new things and new blessings.



C. What Makes Giving Up Wrong:

1. Missing out on the important lessons - Giving up easily can hinder personal growth, limit achievements, and hamper potential. "*Hindi natututo yung sumusuko.*"
2. Leaves no room for grace – Giving up also causes one to miss out on God's grace. Times of challenges are times when God's grace abound.
3. Ending result of giving up: DEFEATED! "*Ang sumusuko, talo!*"

CONCLUSION:

Despite the challenges we may be facing, we need to push ourselves and never give up. We need to trust in the Lord and keep our eyes focused on Jesus. He will not allow us to falter. We are precious in the eyes of God. God wants us to reach our fullest potential.

REFLECTION:

1. What were the instances when you almost gave up in your service?
2. What made you stay?
3. How can you strengthen your perseverance when challenges come?

SCRIBES Ministry:

Transcribed by: Te Florentino

<https://lordsflock.org/teachings/digests>

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