

# PURSUING PASSION

By Glynisia Chan

If you have participated in a long-distance sports event or marathon before, one thing you would surely remember is the feeling of tiredness and the temptation to give up. Tiredness is inevitable in any marathon, especially in the one called “Life.”

Over the past few years, there have been certain ones I know— friends and family—who have given up in life, whether it was their jobs, their Christian ministry, their marriages or even their own lives. It just seemed that there was no longer any resolve

forget all those grueling days in school, at work and at home. When things were getting out of control during times of conflict and weariness set in, escaping or quitting just seemed to be the most convenient option.

But why do some people quit and others remain rooted to their cause?

People don’t quit only because they are tired. People quit because they no longer believe in what they are doing. Spouses divorce because they no longer see any reason for ironing out their

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left in them and throwing in the towel became their clearest option.

As I started to probe further on this topic of quitting, I asked myself when the times I came closest to quitting were. I cannot

differences. Employees leave their jobs because they feel that their work is no longer fulfilling to them.

Of course there are occasions when you need to let go of something in order to embrace your calling. In Genesis 12, Abraham had to leave his country and his father’s house to a land that God would show him, a place where he would be a father of many nations. The leaving gives way to cleaving.

Nevertheless, we need to recognize that quitting to embrace a new vision and quitting due to a lack of vision are worlds apart! Hence, if you know you are running the course assigned by God, tiredness should never be a valid reason to stop what you are doing. You may need to make adjustments to your working style to prevent unnecessary exhaustion, but it is important to reconcile with the fact that experiencing a degree of tiredness is actually acceptable. This is because if you love what you are in it, then it is natural for you to go the extra mile.



In fact, the reason we become tired is simply because we push ourselves— sometimes over the edge—to continue doing what we love to do. Giving our all to pursue that passion becomes our sole focus in life. This is where our fulfillment lies, in the intimate recesses of our heart.

When a lone belief becomes the catalyst that propels you forward, nothing, not even tiredness, can stop you.

This understanding can apply in every aspect of our lives, especially within our family circles, careers, church ministries and the relationships around us. If tiredness was the chief reason why people quit, then many overworked mums, overburdened dads and hardworking individuals would have given up long ago and society would have plunged into a hollow reality.

There are many people who are tired, yet they continue, refusing to give in, because they believe in something or someone.

What keeps a mother believing that her wayward son, locked up in prison,

would one day turn over a new leaf? What strengthens a wife to continue loving her husband even after his infidelity? What keeps a servant faithful to his master so that he chooses to keep on serving him and his household? And why would God send His Son to die for mankind, with absolutely no guarantee of reciprocated love?

The answer is simple yet profound: God loved His creation so much that even with the fall of mankind, He chose to believe in the intrinsic goodness of man, that they could choose to love Him with their own freewill. And that belief in humankind paved the way for God’s redemptive plan to unfold on earth.

Imagine how “tiring” and painful it must have been for God to look on His own people on earth and watch us stumble and fall every now and then. The Bible is full of stories on the failures of man, but each time, God’s love and forgiveness would prevail. Every time a setback occurs, our heavenly Father waits patiently for us to come back to Him.

Knowing that someone believes in us can be a powerful emotion in itself and is often enough to spur us ahead once again, energized and inspired to cross the hurdles on the path ahead.

What about you today? Is weariness setting in and draining your life? Have you lost the sense of purpose in what you are doing? There is no greater satisfaction than knowing why you are doing what you are doing. Nothing can be more powerful than believing in what you have committed to do. If tiredness has set in, take some time out to recuperate and regain your energy. If your vision has been blurred, go back to the place where you first received the *rhema* word from God and cling onto it. When the future seems bleak, return to the secret place of prayer and find your purpose in God.

Don’t give up just because the results you want may not be visible yet. Keep running the race that is set before you and pursue your passion with all fervor and enthusiasm! **HT**

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