

DO NOT GIVE UP!

REV. MARK MAGANGAT

Have you ever been in a situation when you just wanted to quit?

It is likely that you have felt that way, not just once, but multiple times. I can certainly relate to this because I have been there, too. And it is not a pleasant experience. The feeling of being overwhelmed, exhausted, and tempted to give up can be incredibly strong and utterly frustrating. However, as I took time to pause and reflect, I was reminded that I am called to something greater; I am called to keep going, to persevere, even when everything seems impossible to overcome.

Life can be tough, filled with challenges that make us feel tired and ready to quit. But as followers of Christ, we are called to keep going, even when the going gets tough. The Apostle Paul's message in 2 Corinthians 4 has given great encouragement to me and has likewise been something I have shared to encourage people who go through the same ordeal.

During difficult times, it is essential to remember why God has called us. Each of us has a unique purpose, determined by God. The obstacles we face are not mere accidents but opportunities for growth. When we encounter setbacks, let us remember that God will guide us. Our purpose is not determined by our

circumstances, but by our unwavering commitment to follow Christ. Embrace God's calling for you, for it will keep you anchored in the storms of life.

In a world that focuses on human achievements, we must refuse to glorify anyone or anything except Christ. We are utterly imperfect vessels. By keeping our eyes fixed on Christ, we redirect the attention from ourselves to the true source of strength. Relying on our abilities alone will lead to stumbling. But when we shift our focus to Christ, His power shines through our weaknesses. Let us embrace them as they will allow us to experience God's grace and find the strength to endure.

When life becomes overwhelming, remember that you are not alone. Our Heavenly Father promises to be with us every step of the way, providing the strength we need. Instead of relying on our limited human strength, we are called to tap into God's unlimited power. By surrendering our burdens and seeking His guidance, we will witness His supernatural intervention in our lives. Trusting in God's power allows us to navigate through the darkest moments, knowing that His light will guide us to victory.

When exhaustion sets in, it is important to find rest in God. He is the ultimate source of

strength and joy. Continue to fight for your time with God and His Word. Draw from His wellspring of grace and surrender your worries and burdens to Him. He will exchange your fatigue for renewed strength. God never intended for us to carry the weight of the world alone. Seek His face daily, allow His peace to fill you and empower you to keep persevering.

Perhaps today, you find yourself at a breaking point, contemplating on giving up. What is it that has tempted you to consider surrendering? Is it a dream you have been pursuing? A relationship that feels strained? The challenges of raising your children? The difficulties in your studies or career? Maybe even your commitment to serving God as a Christian or following your divine calling? Whatever it may be, I want you to know that God has a loud message for you:

"Do not quit. Do not give up." God's message will always remain unchanged. Whether it is today, tomorrow, or any moment in your life, when you feel like throwing in the towel, His unwavering voice resounds, saying, "Do not quit. Do not give up!" ✱