

“Pressing Past Your Quitting Points”

In our Christian journey, many times we come to forks in the road, and we have to make a decision. Because we feel pressurized to make a choice, if we do not rely on the Holy Spirit, we have a tendency to make unwise judgments. One wrong decision could be when we decide to prematurely quit something because of the intense pressure. Thus my ministry, “Pressing Past Your Quitting Points!”

For example, when things get too hard on the job, we want to quit. When marriage becomes too difficult, we sometimes feel as though quitting is a viable option. When the process gets too intense spiritually, we at given times, want to quit. Moreover, we decide that the Lord is making too much of a demand on our spiritual life, and we don't really know if we can trust Him to help us.

From a spiritual perspective, our question may go something like this: “Can I trust God?” Another example is when we experience failure, rejection and scorn we say, “That's it God, I'm not going a step further. You're asking more than I can give.” When we do this, we are implementing quitting points in our lives.

We should understand that every time we overcome our desire to quit, a victory is gained in our lives. Every time we break through our own quitting points, a little more endurance is added to our resolve.

Please read: [II Corinthians 6:3-10](#).

Paul had his quitting points. He could have thrown up his hands and said enough is enough, especially after so many beatings, imprisonments, sleepless nights and days without food.

Please read: [II Corinthians 12:7-10](#). This is another area where Paul could have quit.

Is it possible that God strategically places these crossroads in our lives so that we might make a decision? The question is, “Will we stay the course?” I am here to declare to you to submit to the Holy Spirit, and don't give up! Even though you are angry, fearful and stressed, this situation will pass.

You know, Jesus had His quitting points as well. In the Gethsemane experience, our Lord travailed over His decision to die on the cross; however, He broke through His quitting points when He said, “Not my will but thy will be done.” When the soldiers were slapping Him across the face, and pulling His beard out, the Lord could have said, “Now wait one minute, that is just about enough,” but He didn't. Aren't you glad that this is the course of action that He decided to take?

Thank God that Jesus didn't quit by calling a thousand legions of angels from heaven to save Him from death on the Cross. At that point as He hung between life and death, Jesus could have screamed out, “Stop this madness,” but He didn't, our Lord pressed past His quitting point!

Many people live with scars or lingering wounds from having quit something prematurely. As a result many look back on their lives with bewilderment asking the question, “Why did I stop the process too soon and lose its benefits?”

The answer is obvious:

It is infinitely easier to quit than endure. It’s easier to walk out of a room during an argument than to stay and work through the conflict. It’s easier to read the paper and drink coffee in your bathrobe on Sunday morning than to get yourself and your family up, dress everyone, face the traffic and go to church. It’s easier to do what you want to do in your life than to kneel before God, turn the reins over to Him, and wait patiently and expectantly and sometimes agonizingly for Him to answer you. It’s easier to quit following Jesus Christ than to go through the painful process of daily surrender.

We may as well admit it – it’s almost always easier to quit than to endure. But quitting exacts high cost, and many of us have paid dearly for giving up too soon.

When I think about not quitting, I think about our sixteenth President of the United States. Did you know that President Lincoln had plenty to quit over? For example:

- Lincoln had less than a one-year formal education.
- He failed in business in 1831.
- He was defeated for the legislature in 1832.
- Again defeated in business in 1833.
- Elected to the legislature in 1834.
- His fiancée died in 1835.
- Lincoln was defeated for Speaker of the House in 1838.
- He was defeated as elector in 1840.
- Only one of his sons lived past the age of 18.
- He was defeated for Congress in 1843.
- Elected to Congress in 1846.
- Lincoln was defeated for Congress in 1848.
- He was defeated for Senate in 1855.
- Defeated for Vice President in 1856.
- Defeated for Senate in 1858.
- Elected President of the United States in 1860.

In every case Abraham Lincoln never quit. He kept going even in the face of adversity. You know what, if he can press past his quitting points, So can you!

Hebrews 12:7 says:

“Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?”

James 2:12 says:

“Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.”

Hebrews 12:1 says:

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”

Please read Hebrews 12:1-13.

A **key** in making proper decisions is to make decisions while you are calm and collected. Do not make decisions while you are in the midst of turmoil.

Conclusion:

Gather up all of your quitting point flags that you have put out there. These are flags that you strategically put into place so that when you reach them you can say, “I can quit here because I have done what I said I would do.” They are flags that you put in place so that when things get too tough you can stop and collect them and then feel as though you can go on to something else.

What I am asking you to do is press past those quitting points and press into the plans and purposes of God!

I am asking you to press past your quitting points regarding the Lord, our Church, your ministry, your marriage, your family, your job, and your friendships.

Now, take those flags that you picked up, and throw them away never to be remembered again. Amen!

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