

LIFE IS NOT ABOUT ME, BUT ABOUT "WE"

I recently learned that life is not about the word "me," but about "WE"!

I grew up believing that achieving my goals and ambitions should take top priority. I was taught that they will give my life direction and achieving them will ensure a good fortune for me and my family. But as I pursued my goals, I learned that I need other people to help me. While most of the people I worked with cooperated with me, there were those who added to my burden and those who challenged what I wanted to accomplish. So, in the past, I would either confront them or ram through them.

A couple of years ago, I was confronted by Philippians 2:3- 4: "...with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others." My immediate response then was, Why? Why should I have to look out for the interest of others? And why should I regard them as more important than myself? These verses seem to suggest that I should sacrifice my goals for the sake of the welfare of others. Naisip ko tuloy, kung 'yung aking goals ko nga nahihirapan na akong abutin, proproblemahin ko pa ba 'yung sa iba? But because I promised to obey everything the Bible says, I acted on what Philippians 2:3-4 say. And some amazing things started to happen.

When I made people feel important, they made me feel important in return. When I put their welfare before mine, they started to protect my interests as well. I learned that God did not want me to suffer when He asked me to serve the needs of others. Instead, He wanted me to see that people are basically good. He showed me that when you help others meet their goals, they will help you meet yours, and by protecting the "WE", you are actually taking care of the "me"!

This principle is exemplified in the lives of my dear friends, Rico and Menchit Wong. Their passion to protect the welfare of the people around them continually amazes me. But then I also saw that the people they have been blessing have made it their priority to protect the welfare of this couple. Kaya nga today, I have a new ambition. Sana sa paglaki ko magaya ko si Rico!

Rico Wong is EVP of DMCI, while Menchit is the President of Compassion International. They have a small BS group with over 120 adult members. While their members have their own small groups already, everyone are still drawn to the mother group because of how the couple shows great concern for everybody.