

WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT THE AGE 30?

A few weeks ago, I was seated with the owner of the company where I spoke in and got a chance to talk to his 23-year-old daughter. She was very nice, and she reminded me of my own daughter, Denise. Having just graduated from college a year back, I asked her about her plans. She then started enumerating all the things she wants to do and the interests she would like to pursue. I told her, "Wow, napagod naman ako for you." She then said, "Sayang kasi ang oras, so I need to accomplish enough by the age of 30 so that I can call myself successful." So I asked, "WHY?" But this actually made me see Denise in her all the more.

You see a few months back, I had the same conversation with Denise. She was then sharing with me all the things she wants to accomplish and the places she wants to go to, before the age of 30. It seems that 30 is a special target for millennials to feel successful. So I asked Denise, "Why? Why do you want to accomplish so much in such a short time? Why do you pressure yourself about all these goals? Why don't you just enjoy life as a journey? You will get there naman eventually."

I asked both girls what is so special about the age of 30, and they said it is because they want to be like Mark Zuckerberg. So I asked them, "How many millennials do you know have become successfully rich by the age of 30?" They said, not much. So I told them that they were actually putting unnecessary pressure on themselves because of a standard the world has imposed on them. I believe this is why many young adults experience depression and even commit suicide.

I told them that they should learn to enjoy life as a journey because like plants, each of us have our own season. If success is measured by what you accomplished at a certain age, then I should see myself a failure as compared to people like Marvin Geramo and Jayson Lo who both became successful at their craft at an early age. But I have a different season, and God in due time gave me success as well. Besides, even our Bible heroes had their own seasons. Joseph was 30 when he became Prime Minister while Moses was 80 before the Lord called him, but nonetheless, God gave them the same level of success.

God made everyone special, and He is, in fact, writing a story in all our lives that He wants to use to bless others. So enjoy your walk with the Lord and do not try to be like someone else. If He makes you successfully rich by the age of 30, then good for you. But if He does not, remain faithful because Psalm 1:3 says you will yield your fruits in the proper season! Life is good if you walk with the Lord. Just make sure you walk

beside Him and not run ahead of Him. If you do this, you will be able to enjoy life in all its fullness.