

## Serving God Beyond Retirement - Embracing A New Chapter In Your Life

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I am 55 years old now, and before I decided to be semi-retired, I first defined what retirement means from my perspective. I hope everyone can gain something from it and benefit from my personal thoughts. I hope you find time to read and share your thoughts. It might not be applicable to everyone, so I apologize if it may affect your views.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today, I want to share about a concept that is often misunderstood: retirement. While many see it as the end of a professional journey, I believe it is merely the beginning of a new chapter, especially when it comes to serving God.

### 1. No Retirement in Serving God

First and foremost, let us remember that there is no retirement when it comes to serving God. Our commitment to God's Providence is lifelong. Just as the sun never tires of rising, our dedication to God's service should remain unwavering. We are called to be His hands and feet, and this calling does not come with an expiration date.

### 2. Taking a Holiday Leave

Instead of viewing this phase as retirement, think of it as taking a well-deserved holiday leave. This is a time to rejuvenate, reflect, and recharge. But remember, a holiday is temporary. After a refreshing break, we return with renewed vigor and enthusiasm, ready to continue our mission.

### 3. More Time to Serve God

Reaching retirement age in our professional careers is a blessing. It means we now have more time to dedicate to God's providence. Imagine the possibilities! We can engage in community service, mentor the younger generation, and participate in church activities. This is our opportunity to do God's will more fully, not just stay at home and cultivate our favorite bonsai.

#### 4. Remain an Inspiration

Your journey and accomplishments are a testament to your faith and dedication. Share your stories, your victories, and even your challenges. By doing so, you inspire others to follow in your footsteps. Your legacy is not just in what you have done, but in the lives you touch and the hearts you inspire.

#### 5. No "Retirement" in Serving God

So, let us remove the word "retirement" from our vocabulary when it comes to serving God. Instead, think of it as being "on leave for a holiday" and then coming back to work with even greater passion. Every small contribution counts. Whether it's a kind word, a helping hand, or a prayer, your efforts make a difference.

#### 6. Embracing the Professional and Career Journey

Throughout our professional and career journeys, we have gained invaluable experiences and skills. These journeys have shaped us into who we are today. As we reach old age, we carry with us a wealth of knowledge and wisdom that can be used to further God's kingdom. Our careers may have ended, but our mission to serve continues.

#### 7. Reaching Old Age with Purpose

Reaching old age is not a time to slow down, but a time to refocus our energies on what truly matters. It is a time to reflect on our life's work and find new ways to contribute. We have more time to volunteer, to teach, and to be a source of strength and guidance for others. Our age is a testament to our endurance and faithfulness.

Let us embrace this new chapter with joy and enthusiasm. Let us continue to serve God with all our heart, soul, and strength. Remember, our work for God and True Parent is never done. We are simply taking a brief pause to gather strength before we dive back into His service with renewed energy.

Thank you, and may God bless you all as you continue to serve Heavenly Parent and True Parents faithfully.

Sincerely,

Lito Juliano

PS: The author is a multi-talented Filipino brother blessed to a Malaysian Chinese sister.