

My Calling at 40

In the Bible, there are many numbers with special meanings. As for me, “40” means a lot to me, because I just turned 40 this year!

I always had a question in my heart: Why do men die? How can I live my life to its fullest? I knew the answer almost 20 years ago, and that is, to dedicate my whole life serving God. So I decided to dedicate myself to His full-time service. However, thank God for He did not accept me at that time, because I was still someone “unbroken” and “unshaped” who could not be used by God. God changes men in His own time. In 1990, my first marriage failed, and it was the beginning of my transformation by God. At that time I completely fell apart. Thank God! It was also a time when I was closest to Him. He broke me with His own words. He forgave me, changed my entire outlook on life and awakened my spirit. Thank God! He sent a “spiritual mentor” to bring me back to church and to God’s home – Shatin Corps, where I rededicated myself to His service. In a united camp in 1998, I had a wonderful opportunity to play the role of Jesus in a play. It was the most valuable “mission” in my life, as God reassured me of my dedication and persistence in preaching the Gospels. In the Command’s Congress in 1998, God wanted me to respond to Him. When the Colonel sent out the earnest invitation on the stage, God’s calling became so pressing on me that made my heart beat really fast. I responded, but I just wanted to be an “envoy” instead of an “officer” at that time, because I had just bought a Home Ownership Scheme flat. Nevertheless, God taught me an invaluable lesson in a wonderful way: Take Abraham as a role model who sacrificed his only beloved son Isaac to the Lord, because “the Lord gave and the Lord has taken away”, and I could not love God and the world at the same time. Finally, after discussing with my wife, we decided to give up on the flat, as we could not reject the Holy Spirit’s conviction and calling any more!

It is not an easy task to start over from scratch at the age of 40. I knew some “healthy” friends who had a good job and a happy family, but God suddenly took away their lives. I realize the urgent need to save souls, because “our time” is different from “God’s time”. I don’t know how many more decades God will allow me to live on earth, but I’m sure I have no more days to waste, because we don’t know how many souls are being taken away by Satan every moment.

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(Commissioned in 2001)