

REFLECTION

BLD NEWARK COVENANT COMMUNITY

SUBMISSION TO GOD'S WILL

How much faith do you think Our Blessed Virgin Mary had, at the time she was asked by Our Heavenly Father to carry His only Begotten Son? Mary said, ***"Behold I am the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to unto me according to your word."***(Lk. 1: 38)

I could recite this passage over and over in my limited wisdom, probably all throughout my lifetime, but I will never have the same of faith and wisdom, like our Blessed Virgin Mary's at the time it happened to her. Is this a question of my faith or a question of what I am willing to give up?

For Our Mother, she gave her whole self to be the vessel in giving life to Our Savior. As for me, what am I willing to give up? I likened my faith to the two columns of the bank statement, one for deposit and one for withdrawal. How much of it have I deposited and how much of it have I withdrawn?

When I joined BLD a year and a half ago, I did not hesitate to accept the invitation. My wife and I submitted the application, as if we were applying for a bank account. We were clueless. All we had was our faith which was all that was necessary for God to open us an account. We have no idea where the bends and corners of the road ahead would take us.

As for me, all I knew was what BLD stood for: BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS. We would soon realize what the four words meant: give back to God what belongs to Him - our life, our time, talents and treasures. But as for my wife and me we just followed where our loving shepherds led us. We followed their directions and yielded to their guidance and advice each time we ventured elsewhere.

We sat in the church during worships, sometimes wondering what we got ourselves into. A year and a half later, we realized that as a couple we were actually moving further away from our old selves. We began to notice the changes in our ways, although traces of our old selves still surface once in awhile. However, now we anticipate going to the Friday worships because we have accepted that our lives and the lives of our kids belong to God. As the months passed, my wife and I realized our bank statement started to gain some interest. All our children except our 2-year-old daughter are just as enthusiastic to be where we want to be, in HIS HOUSE.

Now, it is rewarding to hear my kids ask, "Dad, are we going to the WORSHIP?"