

# **Never Give Up**

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## Summary

You will face many different kinds of trials in your life. No matter what: Never give up, never get out, and never give in.

## Outcomes

This lesson gives a deeply personal glimpse into my own life to help encourage you in whatever situation you face. The Bible is clear about how to face trials and what to do in the midst of them. You will learn that no matter what, you must never give up. If you follow God, He will work in supernatural ways.

## Scriptural Basis

“In this world you will have tribulation.” John 16:33

“We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:12

*All Scriptures are from the New King James version of the Bible unless noted otherwise.*

## Success in Life and Business

If you do a study on the most important factor for success in business and life, the number one answer you will find is to never give up. It may be called different things such as perseverance, resiliency, mindset, toughness, or grit, but the bottom line is that the most important factor for success is never giving up.

Listed below are several quotes from successful people regarding perseverance:

- "Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other one thing." Abraham Lincoln
- "I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." Thomas A. Edison
- "Successful men and women keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit." Conrad Hilton
- "Entrepreneurs average 3.8 failures before final success. What sets the successful ones apart is their amazing persistence." Lisa M. Amos
- "I do not think that there is any other quality so essential to success of any kind as the quality of perseverance. It overcomes almost everything, even nature." John D. Rockefeller

It is clear that perseverance and not giving up are critically important to success.

## The Blessed Life

My pastor and best friend, Robert Morris, wrote a book called "The Blessed Life" that has sold over a million copies. In the book Pastor Morris talks about the principles of living a blessed life. I am mentioned in the book several times and he often has told me I am the most blessed person he has ever met.

It's true. I have had a great marriage for almost forty years. I have wonderful children who have never rebelled and are now successful adults. I have amazing grandchildren (who live a few minutes away). God has given me some great relationships and friendships. I have the privilege of being a founding elder at one of the largest churches in the United States and have had the opportunity to speak and minister to several hundred thousand people. I also had a successful business that I sold at a relatively young age and retired to do ministry.

People often ask, “Have I gone through any difficult times?” I have been incredibly blessed, but I can tell you this: I have been through hard times.

## Everyone Goes Through Hard Times

Everyone goes through hard times – and I mean everybody. Jesus told us this in John 16:33 when He said, “In the world you will have tribulation.” We will have trials and tribulations. Some are self-inflicted. Some come from just living in the world. Matthew 5:45 tells us that God “makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.” Some come from the Enemy of our soul.

It is the self-inflicted tribulation we should try particularly hard to avoid. One of the best methods of doing this is to learn God’s ways. One of my life sayings is that “God’s Ways Work.” I do not mean you will never go through hard times. What I do mean is that God’s ways will produce better results than our ways. Everything we do will go better by doing things God’s way rather than our way. Also, doing things God’s way will greatly reduce our self-inflicted hard times.

Some people might say, “We are supposed to go through hard times to learn through experience, for everyone knows ‘Experience is the best teacher.’” I disagree with that statement. You can definitely learn through mistakes and hard times, but there are better ways of learning. One of my favorite sayings is, “Experience is not the best teacher. **Other people’s experience is the best teacher.**” Ever since I was a teenager, I was always asking business owners the best way to run a business. What was the most important thing they had learned? What was their biggest mistake? What were non-optional principles for running a business? I much prefer to learn from other people’s mistakes than make my own.

I have been privileged to know many of the most well-known Christians of my generation as well as previous generations. I can categorically state that all of the

**“Experience is not the best teacher. Other people’s experience is the best teacher.”**

ones I have known have gone through extremely difficult situations.

I have also gone through difficult situations many times. I broke my neck diving into a creek before my junior year in high school and had to quit playing college football my freshman year as a

result. This was definitely a self-inflicted problem.

In 1996 I hurt my back and spent six weeks confined to my bed. After recovering, I hurt my back again in 1997 and spent another six weeks on mandatory bed rest. It took several years to finally recover from these incidences.

Then in January 2000, I was driving to the hospital late at night to pray for someone, and a drunk driver going over 100 miles per hour ran into my car. The accident damaged my back and neck and I ended up having back surgery. I was basically an invalid for eighteen months. For the first nine months, I was not able to sit at a table and eat. As a result, my family ate on the living room floor for nine months. Many days I had to crawl to the bathroom because it was too painful to walk. During this time, my wife had to drive me around in the back of our SUV to every meeting because I could not sit in a seat long enough to drive. I had to stand at meetings. I was unable to work at more than 25% capacity and our company suffered tremendously as our revenues and profits dropped precipitously.

We had other trials over the years in our business. There were at least two times in the early years of our business when we knew that if God did not come through, we would be out of business. We had severe cash flow issues one time and had millions of dollars in receivables that we just could not seem to collect. We got to the point where unless we collected some receivables, we could not make payroll. We had a couple of really bad hires, and at the end of my owning the company, actually had someone file a lawsuit against us.

On the family side, my wife was put in the hospital with a rare disease and ended up in basically a coma. On the sixth day, the doctor told me he didn't think she was going to make it. I cried out to God and he healed her within a few hours, and she was able to leave the hospital the next day, but it was a severe trial.

While many of the things I walked through were very difficult, none of this even begins to compare to the worst year of my life. As a matter of fact, if you took all of the difficulties together of the previous thirty years of my life, the total would be insignificant compared to the worst year of my life.

## **The Worst Year of My Life**

2012 marked my thirtieth anniversary of being a Christian. I had been learning and following God's principles since I had become a Christian and those principles had led to me feel that I had been blessed for thirty years. Little did I know what was about to happen. In March 2012, I was preparing to go on a mission trip to South Africa. About two weeks before I was to leave, I started having neck and back

pain with tingling and numbness in my hands and feet. I went to the doctor and he suggested that I take a round of steroids. I had taken these steroids when I was suffering from back pain in 1996 and they had not seemed to help. I needed to get better quickly, so I asked if I could take a double dose of steroids. He reluctantly agreed. That was a huge self-inflicted mistake that launched the worst year of my life.

The steroids made me hyper and kept me from sleeping at night. Unfortunately, I didn't realize how wired I was. I thought I couldn't sleep because of the pain and tingling in my hands and feet, so I kept taking the steroids. I ended up sleeping about 2-3 hours a night for 12 days, until the steroids wore off. The worst part was that the process altered my circadian sleep rhythm and I could not get to sleep at night. This ended up lasting for almost a year. The steroids also caused me to lose twenty pounds in a month. Like many people, after I lost 20 pounds, I looked pretty good. After I lost 35 pounds due to abnormal cortisol levels, people started asking me if I was OK. But I wasn't OK. I canceled my trip to South Africa and tried to figure out why my back and neck were still giving me problems.

I had an MRI done on my neck and lower back. When the doctor met with me to review the results of the MRI, he told me I had cancer and sent me to a cancer specialist.



In addition to my physical problems, every area of my life got much worse:

- 1) The IRS audited my personal finances.
- 2) Two weeks later, the State of Texas decided to audit me on the business I had sold two years before.
- 3) I was dealing with the lawsuit someone had filed against our company shortly before I sold it.
- 4) During this time, Melody and I felt we were supposed to buy a house and move closer to our church, so we did. We thought we would not have any problem selling our old house. After the 2008 recession, there were not a lot of people buying 6,000 square foot houses. The house sat empty for a year. During that year, we received one offer on the house, which was over 35% lower than what we were asking.
- 5) When we moved to our new house, someone smashed the windshield on one of our cars. In what seemed to typify 2012, when we called the policeman

out to investigate, he said, “In 14 years I have never had a call on this street before. Yours is the first.” I can’t tell you how many times something happened in 2012 that had “never happened before.”

- 6) During this time, I had a \$2-4 million financial reversal.
- 7) To add insult to injury, I received a \$45,000.00 water bill at our new house. When I told Melody, I remember her saying, “Well, I have been taking a lot of baths this month.” I thought that might be realistic if she was filling up a swimming pool and draining it every time she took a bath! I actually wondered if we had a major leak that was creating an underground lake under our house.

While these issues were stressful enough, by far the worst part of 2012 was what happened to my family. In a three-month period:

- 8) Our oldest daughter, Kristin, had a tubal pregnancy. While her life was in danger, we also lost our first grandchild.
- 9) Our youngest daughter, Kassie, had a very serious four-wheeler accident. She unfortunately wasn’t wearing a helmet. She hurt her back and neck and sustained the highest-level concussion you can have. She passed out 3 times at the site of the accident. She was rushed to the emergency room where the doctors told us that if she had landed a little bit differently, she would have died. She continued to have major problems from the concussion.
- 10) Melody, my wife, was rushed to the emergency room to restart her heart.

Many other negative events occurred during this time. I am just giving you the highlights, or perhaps I should say lowlights. Three or four other very personal things happened that were more painful than any of the above. I had been through difficult things before, but this was overwhelming. I felt like the author of Lamentations when he said in chapter 3, verse 18, "My strength and my hope have perished from the Lord." No matter where I turned, it seemed like something was going terribly wrong. While I was going through all of this, I do not remember ever sleeping for more than 5 hours in a night.

One of my relatives asked why I was going through a “Job experience” like in the Bible. Perhaps one of the worst parts was, I had no idea why. I wasn’t in any sin. I was trying to serve God. I asked my family, friends and elders why they thought I was going through this. They didn’t know either. It was incredibly frustrating and discouraging. I remember thinking, “God, I have been serving you faithfully for thirty years, and this is how you treat me.” I read the Bible and prayed, but



nothing seemed to work. It was like the heavens were closed. At one point, I got very angry with God. There were other times I didn't feel like fighting anymore. Perhaps you have been there, or maybe you are going through a similar season right now. At the end of this lesson, I am going to share with you specifically what I did to get through and survive the worst year of my life, but one thing that eventually really helped me was three decisions I had made years before. I want to encourage you to make these decisions yourself. There is power in pre-made decisions. You want to make decisions when you are thinking calmly and rationally, not when your emotions are being tugged every which-way in the middle of a storm. Pre-made decisions are a part of the training we go through for the tribulations Jesus told us would inevitably come. In the middle of the battle, we want to be prepared to make the right decisions. As the Navy Seals say, "We don't rise to the level of our expectations, we fall to the level of our training."

Here are the three pre-made decisions I made to help get me through the worst year of my life.

## Never Give Up

Legend has it that in 1941 during World War II, while the German army was at war with Great Britain, Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister of Great Britain, gave a commencement address.

He stood before the students and said, "Never give up. Never, ever, ever, ever, ever, give up. Never give up." Then he sat down. This is what I believe the Lord wants to say to you today. Never give up. If you are facing discouragement or a difficult situation, **NEVER GIVE UP!** This was my first pre-made decision.

**"In the middle of the battle, we want to be prepared to make the right decisions."**

One day I was reading Hebrews Chapter 11 and I thought, "What do the heroes of faith have in common?" Heroes like Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and David. As I read their stories, I noticed that they all believed God and never gave up.

We all want great faith. But as Smith Wigglesworth put it, "Great faith is the product of great fights. Great testimonies are the outcome of great tests. Great triumphs can only come out of great trials." I want to make sure you caught that. "Great faith is the product of great fights." You can only get great faith by fighting great battles. We want great faith and small battles. It doesn't work that way. If you want great faith, you are going to have to persevere through great battles and not give up.

Almost everyone has heard of the Navy SEALs. They are one of the greatest fighting forces on the planet. To become a Navy SEAL requires you to go through some of the most rigorous training in the world. The training is so difficult that 75% of the candidates do not make it to the end of training because they drop out. During the six months of training, there is a brass bell that accompanies the prospective SEALs everywhere they go. At any time, you can quit by simply ringing the bell. The ones who make it to the end have determined that they will never ring the bell.



The toughest part of Navy SEAL training is “H---” Week. H does not stand for Happy. As a matter of fact, “H---” rhymes with bell. The devil wants to give you H--- week every week of your life. He also wants to give you H--- month, H--- year, and H--- life and make you give up. Like the Navy SEALs, pre-decide to never ring the bell. The SEALs are the most elite warriors in the world

because they have learned to never give up.

The number one thing the enemy wants us to do is to give up, stop following God and start following him.

Never give up on God.  
 Never give up on yourself.  
 Never give up on your destiny.

What will you say on that day when you stand before the Lord? “God, I tried, but it was too difficult,” or “it was difficult, but I never gave up.” Jesus didn’t give up. If there was ever a person who had reason to give up, it was Jesus. Jesus has never given up on you. NEVER GIVE UP!

## Never Get Out

This was my second pre-made decision. I made a decision to Never Get Out in two areas.

1. **Never get out of relationship with God.** Christianity is about a relationship with God. Never get out of your relationship with God. God loves you. He is 100% for you. He will never get out of relationship with you. I have decided to love God and be in relationship with Him for the rest

of my life. Mark 12:30 sums it up for me, “And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.”

- 2. Never get out of the family of God.** The second commandment mentioned in Mark 12 is the second part of Never Get Out. Mark 12:31 says, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Why would you get out of relationship with people you love? I have committed to never get out of relationship with the family of God, the Church.

In thirty years, I have been an elder at three churches. Melody and I have counseled hundreds, if not thousands of people. We have heard and seen a lot, and yes, Christians can have a lot of problems. But that doesn't mean we should ever get out of relationship with Christians. Instead we should operate in the love spoken of in 1 Corinthians 13:7-8 which says, “Love... bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails.” We should have this kind of love for our Christian brothers and sisters.

Hebrews 10:24-25 goes on to say, “And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”

We are not getting out of relationship with other Christians. I am not saying you are never supposed to leave a church. **I am saying** you are never supposed to leave **the Church**.

If I get out of relationship with God and other Christians, it will be the biggest mistake of my life. I am not getting out. **NEVER GET OUT!**

## **Never Give In**

The third pre-made decision I made was to never give in.

### **1. Never give in to the world**

If you want to talk about problems, look at people in the world! As I get older, I never fail to be amazed at how many problems worldly people have. Sometimes people look critically at Christians and are disappointed in them. Here is

something to think about. Many people look at Christians and judge them according to the Bible. What they typically don't do is compare the worst people living in the world to the "worst" true Christians. There is no comparison!! We don't have any mass murderers in the ranks of true Christians.

**"You are never supposed to leave THE Church."**

Believe me, the worst people in the world are much worse than the "worst" Christians. Why? Because they are of the world and the Bible is very clear that we are not to be like the world. Romans 12:2 tells us, "do not be conformed to this world."

People say we need to affect the culture. Here is my question: What are you doing to keep the culture from affecting you? Pollster George Barna has shown that, statistically, the average Christian is much like the people in the world. Whether it is marriage issues, problems with children, pornography, relationships, etc., most Christians have given in to the world's influences.

We are not supposed to give in to the world. 1 John 2:16-17 tells us, "For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life — is not of the Father but is of the world." We need to be in the world, but not of it.

Why would we want to be like the world anyway? Do we want to have all of their problems? Proverbs 6:27-28 says, "Can a man take fire to his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be seared?"

## **2. Never give in to your flesh.**

We are supposed to submit to God, not to our flesh. We do this by being led by the Holy Spirit. Galatians 5:16 tells us that if we will walk in the Spirit, we will not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

## **3. Never give in to the devil**

We are not supposed to give in to the devil. We are supposed to resist the devil. James 4:7 tells us to, "Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." We have a very real enemy who wants to kill, steal and destroy (John 10:10). Ephesians 6:12 tells us, "We do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." We wrestle against demonic

forces. A pastor once told me, “If you pinch them and they squeal, they are not the enemy. People are not our enemy. The devil is our enemy.”

The devil’s main strategy is to deceive us and get us to believe lies. The devil is a liar and the father of lies (John 8:44). Ultimately, the devil wants to destroy our lives and make us submit to him. Never give in to the lies of the devil. He will tell you that your life is a waste and you will never amount to anything. It is a lie! Your past is not the predictor of your future. God is the predictor of your future.

The world, the flesh, and the devil want us to give up, get out and give in. Never Give Up! Never Get Out! Never Give In!

## Getting Through the Worst Year of My Life

In addition to the three pre-made decisions, I did some very specific things to get through the worst year of my life.

1. **I sought out wise counsel.** I met with my pastor and another experienced, godly pastor. They both told me the same thing. I was facing a major coordinated spiritual attack where the enemy was trying to kill me. One of the pastors told me, “You will fight, or you will die.” I thought, “Well praise the Lord. Thank you for such good news. Is there anything else you would like to say to encourage me?”

Unfortunately, what they were telling me was true. The enemy has seen thousands, if not millions, of people like you and me. He knows our weaknesses and vulnerabilities. He is very patient and knows when to attack. And when he attacks, he usually attacks on multiple fronts at once. When the devil attacked Jesus in the wilderness, he attacked Him in three areas. He also used lies and even twisted Scripture, to attack Jesus. And just like with Jesus, the devil waits until he can do the most damage to us. The Bible calls it “an opportune time.” Luke 4:13 describes it this way, “Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.”

Both pastors also told me what they had done when they had faced similar experiences (we all have tribulations) and that helped me immensely. It also helped me to know that others had gone through what I was going through.

2. **I reminded myself of my pre-made decisions.** I was determined I was not going to give up, get out or give in.

3. **I examined my heart and my ways.** 1 Corinthians 11 tells us that when we do not examine ourselves properly, it causes many to be weak, sick, and even die. I examined myself and changed anything where I was not lining up with God's will and ways.
4. **I got under authority.** Many people will tell you they are under authority. My question is, "How do you know you are really under authority?" The answer is when you intentionally place yourself under authority and are willing to do what your authority says. Your authority is your covering, and God works through authority. I was already under the authority of the elders, but I went to the elders and made sure they knew I was under their authority and that I would do anything they felt I should do.
5. **Melody and I established a team of intercessors.** We all need the body of Christ, and we particularly needed God's people to exercise their giftings in our time of need. We recruited a team of three couples with a gift of intercession that we met with every month to two months, and who prayed for us daily. We could sense a change in the spiritual atmosphere around our lives almost immediately. We have continued that practice to this day.
6. **I received tremendous support from my godly family and friends.** I am typically not very good at receiving. During this season, I needed all the help I could get so I became a great receiver.
7. **I strengthened myself in the Lord.** In 1 Samuel 30:3-8, the Bible tells us the story of David at Ziklag, "So David and his men came to the city, and there it was, burned with fire; and their wives, their sons, and their daughters had been taken captive. Then David and the people who were with him lifted up their voices and wept, until they had no more power to weep. And David's two wives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the widow of Nabal the Carmelite, had been taken captive. Now David was greatly distressed, for the people spoke of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and his daughters. But David strengthened himself in the LORD his God. Then David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, "Please bring the ephod here to me." And Abiathar brought the ephod to David. So David inquired of the LORD, saying, "Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them?" And He answered him, "Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all." Not only did David recover all, he also took spoil from the enemy.



What did David do on the worst day of his life? He strengthened himself in the Lord and inquired of the Lord. God puts stories in the Bible so we can follow His principles. I thought, “If it is good enough for David, it is good enough for me,” so I did the same.

## God is a Supernatural God

After I inquired of the Lord, God spoke to me and told me to do three specific things. What the three things are is not significant since we all have different situations. What I can tell you is what He told me was incredibly significant in my coming out of the worst year of my life.

Here is what I have found out in my thirty years of walking with the Lord. When we do what we can do (our part) and don’t give up, God does what only He can do, which is the supernatural part. The woman with the issue of blood for twelve years did not give up and Jesus supernaturally healed her. When we follow God’s ways, He moves supernaturally in our lives.

1. After a full spinal scan (and much prayer), I found out I did not have cancer.
2. The IRS finished their audit and owed me \$38.00.
3. The State of Texas finished their audit and I did not owe any additional taxes.
4. I found out that the only reason I was sued was because the client was afraid that I was going to sue him and wanted the upper hand in any lawsuit. He dropped the lawsuit.
5. We did a 3-year lease on our old house, which ended up turning into a six-year lease. Not only did we make a lot of money leasing the house, but the value of the house increased almost 50% in the six years we were leasing it.
6. God supernaturally restored our finances and increased our assets dramatically.
7. The issues in my back and neck resolved with no physical restrictions (I now play golf and tennis).
8. At the end of my trials, my circadian rhythm was restored and I have been sleeping great ever since.
9. My weight was over-restored (Ok, that was not God’s doing!).
10. My family is doing great.
11. After six weeks, the water bill was reduced to \$117.00!

Like David, God in His mercy allowed me to recover all, and even more.

## Conclusion

Another point that God emphasized when I went through the worst year of my life is that He doesn't see trials like we do. 1 Peter 1:6-7 says, "In this you greatly

**When we do what we can do and do not give up, God does what only He can do - the supernatural.**

rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ." Trials are an opportunity to show how much we **actually** love and honor Jesus Christ.

Trials also help mature us. James 1:2-4 says, "Count it all joy when [not if] you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. But let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

And even though we can't see it at the time, God uses the trials we are going through to work good in our lives. Just like God did with Joseph and his brothers, what the enemy meant for evil, God used for good. Romans 8:28 promises us, "that **all things work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." After the worst year of my life ended, I later wrote down twenty-one benefits that came from that time period.

Some of the benefits of the trials of 2012 are that they ultimately made me more in love with Jesus, more wanting to be in His presence, more confident that God will always come through. After what I went through in 2012, I am totally confident that **God can get me through anything**. What the enemy meant for evil God used for good.

I also have so much more compassion and love for people. I know what it is like to be discouraged and desperate. I know what it is like to not sleep. I know what it is like to cry out to God and it seems like He doesn't hear or care, or He doesn't answer prayer.

You may have problems in your family, marriage, finances, health, or relationships. I am here to tell you that God is a faithful God. He loves you and is 100% for you. God is a miracle working God and He delights in writing last chapters. If you will follow Him, every promise will be realized. You will fulfill



your destiny. The best is yet to come. My exhortation and encouragement to you is to NEVER GIVE UP, NEVER GET OUT, NEVER GIVE IN. **We cannot lose if we will not quit!**

## Never Give Up Assignment

What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?

Perhaps He is saying that you need to overcome in an area that you have given up in. Maybe you need to get wise counsel or get under authority. Or perhaps you need to recruit an intercessory prayer team.

Or maybe you need to encourage others to not give up, get out, or give in. Perhaps God wants you to go to someone and hold up their arms.

**The second most important conversation you will have every day is with you.**

The most important conversation is with God, but the second most important conversation is the conversation with yourself. What are you going to say to yourself when the enemy, the world, and your flesh are lying to you? What are you going to say to yourself when advertising, social media and others are taking you in the wrong direction? What are you going to say to yourself when your own thoughts seem to tell you that you have no destiny or are not going to make it?

**You must take those thoughts captive (2 Corinthians 10:5) and replace them with the right thoughts or have the right thoughts so firmly in your mind that you immediately reject the lies.** Everyone I know faces the wrong thoughts. We must have a plan to defeat them. Will you believe God and what He says in His Word?

In 2012, I typed up a set of declarations and taped them to my bathroom mirror and said them every day. They are still there today. It is a much longer list than the declarations below, but I thought these would at least get you started.

Whatever your situation today, I would like you to put a stake in the ground with the power of pre-made decisions. If you mean it, please say out loud the declarations below. There is power in our spoken words.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, **WILL NEVER GIVE UP.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, **WILL NEVER GET OUT.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, **WILL NEVER GIVE IN.**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, **WILL DO THE WILL OF GOD**

## Personal Reflection Questions

*This exercise is not just about knowing ourselves but allowing the group members to know us.*

1. What trials are you currently facing in your personal life? In your business?
2. What has been the hardest year of your life?
3. How do you usually respond when you face trials? In the future, do you want to respond differently? Why?
4. Have you ever ‘given up, gotten out, or given in?’ What happened as a result?
5. What are some of the benefits from trials you have gone through?