

Man proposes

When Alvin and I were newly-weds, we made a lot of plans. One of those was doing our devotionals together. Sounded fantastic at that time and for a while, we did spend time studying God's Word. However, months passed and



cracks appeared. He, being more nocturnal, would prefer doing our devotionals just before bedtime as he takes a long time waking himself up in the morning. He also finds it comforting to doze off in bed with lingering thoughts of God in his mind. On the other hand, I have always been a morning person so while my energy is highest in the day, it dips by night. That is why I tended to rush through our readings (which annoyed Alvin to no end) so that I could get onto the sleeping part as soon as possible. So much for our best laid plans. The intended quiet time together did not turn out as well as we thought it would be, and so we scrapped it altogether. Since then, I had pretty much given up the idea of us spending regular time discussing about passages in the Bible.

Man proposes. God disposes. Turns out God has not forgotten about this desire of mine. Ever since I have joined The Vine, I have, subconsciously, been involving Alvin in it. Often, I let him vet the contents of what I had written, other times he would share what other insights he had after reading them. Even before I pen my thoughts down, I would share and bounce off the ideas that had taken root in my mind to him. If I remember correctly, he had even contributed two articles himself!

Recently, our discussions have even gone beyond my writings to a recent Christian article shared by a mutual friend of ours, regarding why 59 percent of millennials raised in a church have dropped out. The article, though it was based in an American setting, spoke to us differently. Through the sharing and discussion, I was able to know my husband better and it was then that I realised though we are currently serving in different ministries, though we have different gifting, though we are really, very different from each other, through many ways, God is still working in us and with us, bringing us closer to Him as well as each other. I must admit that there are days when marriage is not smooth sailing at all but I also remember that life as a single had its challenges too. In fact, at different stages of our lives, we face different challenges. We moan, we cry but at times we also rejoice at each of these stages.

As I looked for an apt ending to this sharing, this verse came into mind.

*“For my thoughts
are not your
thoughts,
neither are your
ways my ways,”
declares the Lord.*

*“As the heavens are
higher than the
earth,
so are my ways
higher than your
ways*

and my thoughts than your thoughts. - Isaiah 55:8-9



Amen
Alicia Wong