

## God leads to the best way



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"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." (Proverb 3:5-6)

It is not something to talk out loud, but this is a story about my promotion.

I feel like I never actually experienced much of real hardship from entering the Naval Academy to studying there. I was born in Christian family. As a Christian, I always had thought in my mind to stay humble, kind and to stay low than high up during my military career as well, just like Jesus' parable.

But living a life without any big failure or frustration, there was arrogance growing deep inside my heart. Outside I may look like a sincere Christian who always served well and kept Sunday holy, but just like Pharisees and Sadducees in the Bible, if Jesus saw my inside he would've said "you slave of evil, you are arrogant and hypocritical."

At my first try of promotion half of my classmates promoted, and I belonged to the other half. Shame of the present and uncertainty about the future were too much to handle for me. Because I never faced the big troubles like this before. I did not have any guarantee nor confidence for next promotion either. However, God led me to be promoted through very random occasion, through a personal relation I did not even think of.

Next promotion was harder, only 20% of my classmates got a chance. I failed again. Shame and pain of failure was the same, but I was not anxious nor feeling small like before. I could rely and trust on God for I believed he has plan for me. Next year's promotion was even harder. Possibilities of promotion was even smaller. But a miracle happened. I witnessed the promotion selection process related with environment, timing, personal relationship, etc. was starting to become the best condition for me one by one. And I promoted with a condition which cannot be perfect than that. Witnessing God making such perfect condition which cannot be made nor planned by man's effort, I realized he blessed me through not only failure and devastation, but also through overwhelming grace of his.

If he gave me joy without any failure or frustration, I still would have lived as a hypocritical Christian who has two faces in and out. But now I no longer feel small due to my colleagues who walk in faster path of success. I no longer feel arrogant seeing my colleague who walks a little behind me. For I know God reigns and has plans for them, and for me. I sincerely hope to give and obey all my life to heavenly Father our Lord who gives eternal life, and blessing cannot even be compared to promotion.