



Kahu Kalani Wong, KS Maui

Mai ho‘opalaleha kākou i ka hana maika‘i; no ka mea, i ka wā pono e ‘ohi auane‘i kākou, ke ho‘onāwaliwali ‘ole kākou.- Galatia 6:9

Let’s not become discouraged in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not become weary.- Galatians 6:9

“OH NO, YOU’RE BACK AGAIN!” That was often the reaction we got when we met some of the National Parks Service personnel as we arrived in Kalaupapa. Our mission trips included HOURS of serving the community by cleaning of yards which had become overgrown. The amount of cuttings and trimmings would result in HUGE mounds of material. We’d create piles along the side of the road for the NPS to come along with backhoes and dump trucks to pick it all up...hence the greetings that we got. As chaperones, we seek to keep the haumana working but also at a pace that didn’t burn them out, so frequent breaks were called. On one of the trips, Keala took on the task of cleaning a particularly overgrown banana patch. She had done an excellent job and was told to take a break. She refused to stop and kept going. Even after I said what she had done was sufficient enough, she kept going. She knew that this would have made the patient extremely happy and that was what kept her going.

What is it that drives you in your work? Do you have the mindset of “good enough is good enough”? In other words, do you do it to just passing standards? Or do you give it your all? When it comes to doing God’s work, it’s important for us to keep going even if we may not see the rewards just yet. As our scripture tells us, we will reap it in due time. In addition, our motivation should be that we are doing it for God.

Colossians 3:23 tells us, “Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord and not for people.” I love that word *heartily*. It means wholeheartedly, enthusiastically. When was the last time you did that? Maybe when you a crowd cheering you on? But what about when no one was around? Even if you were alone, know that ke Akua was watching. So, when you have things to do, do it heartily. Even when it seems like the rewards aren’t coming, keep going for it will all work out in the end.