

Weekly Column
Korean Newspaper



Melvin University
and Me

The perfect one or the right direction?

Rev. Melvin once talked about this, but in fact, we humans cannot be complete. But he had said that if we're going in the right direction, that's fine.

We tend to be "perfect" to do something. Of course we can do it perfectly, and it could be the best. But I don't think we should think too much about that.

And if we focus on perfection, we may not be able to achieve it, just as we would like to have a perfect speaking in English. Most of the time we learn spoken English, and we have that experience.

I had a friend who majored in English in the seminary, and he always tried to perfect English grammar. So whenever he talks to Americans, he only think about becoming a perfect grammar. It's kind of funny, but the American who stood in front of him ran away without waiting while he was thinking too much about grammar. Do you think it's an exaggeration? It's true.

Once we try to do something, we just think we have to do it perfectly, if so we can't move forward. That's why it seems unwise to focus on the idea of "doing it perfectly." Because of the limitation of

human beings, it cannot be done perfectly at once. When we look at books about leadership, most of them don't talk about perfection in trying something, but they often say, "Just try a lot of things, choose what works out." This is not 100% correct, but it makes some sense.

To start must be decided by the personally. In this case, with the exception of two or three key members, almost all are skeptical or opposed. In my case it was. People around me were almost skeptical when I started the university in Kenya. Opposition, but expression was skeptical and pessimistic. If I have hesitated at the time, the work could not have been accomplished at all,

We'd better get started. This is because we have to start to proceed. After we started, we couldn't stop it. It became an unstoppable situation. And once we started, we felt the urge to keep going, and we kept going. In fact, not only myself, but also people around me now encouraged me to continue the project. In doing so, an unstoppable amount of energy was applied. The so-called momentum has gained.

And I found that there was no need to worry too much about the speed of progress. There are short and long distances in running races, too! Sometimes like a sprinter, sometimes like a marathoner, or sometimes a little slow. However, it is important to proceed.

In the end, how important is it to get started rather than to get fully prepared! And if we keep going in that direction, we'll get there, even if we go a little slower. That is how our Melvin University was completed. This is because the direction was correct, not the pursuit of perfection.