

destination. But how we journey *does* matter, and so we keep on keepin' on, keep on striving to live in obedience to God.

As we try new things, as we search for the X factor, we must remember that the goal is not simplicity for simplicity's sake. The goal is obedience. The goal is to do everything in such a way that we fulfill our purpose—to love God and enjoy him forever as the catechism says.

Because that's what really matters.

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Colossians 3:17

X: The X factor

“The key is to be flexible, be willing to try new things, and try something else if it doesn’t work. The key is to keep trying.”

—from “Changing Seasons,” *Living Simply*, page 200

The dictionary defines X as an unknown quantity or variable. And because we all lead different lives, have different backgrounds, pursue different interests, live in different places, and are just—well, different, the X factor is a necessary element of living simply.

As we pursue living more simply, there will always be another idea to try, another activity to drop from the calendar, another season ending and another season beginning.

We will never have arrived until we arrive in heaven—our ultimate