

7 March 2018

We shall never surrender

Good morning, teachers and students. Today, I'd like to share with you one of the famous speeches of Winston Churchill (邱吉爾) — **“We shall never surrender. We shall fight on the beaches”**. Winston Churchill was the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945 and again from 1951 to 1955. During his time as Prime Minister, Churchill led Britain to victory in the Second World War.

Churchill's war speeches are unforgettable. His speeches united the British at the most critical period of the war when Hitler of Germany was threatening to invade England.

"We shall never surrender, we shall fight on the beaches" is a common title given to a speech delivered by Winston Churchill to the House of Commons of the Parliament of the United Kingdom on 4 June 1940. This was the second of three major speeches given around the period of the Battle of France, with the others named as the "Blood, toil, tears, and sweat" speech of 13 May, and the "This was their finest hour" speech of 18 June.

Facing the strong attack from Hitler and Germany, Churchill encouraged the British fighting to the end. Churchill said in the speech, “We shall not fail, we shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our Island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender.”

Boys and girls, comparatively speaking, I am sure that the difficulties Churchill and the British faced during the Second World War were much greater than what we are facing now. **I strongly encourage all of you to say the same words to yourselves when you are facing difficulties. “We shall not fail, we shall go on to the end, we shall fight in whatever difficult situations, we shall fight with growing confidence**

and growing strength, we shall defend ourselves, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight in different places, we shall never surrender.”

At the end of the speech, Churchill said, “and even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this Island or a large part of it were subjugated (征服) and starving, then our Empire beyond the seas, armed and guarded by the British Fleet, would carry on the struggle, **until, in God’s good time**, the New World, with all its power and might, steps forth to the rescue and the liberation of the old.”

When facing difficulties, Churchill still remembered God. He deeply believed that even if the United Kingdom was defeated by Germany, God would rescue and liberate the British.

Similarly, **boys and girls, when you are facing difficulties, remember that God is on your side and offers help to you.** As apostle Paul said in the Bible, “God comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.” (我們在一切患難中、他就安慰我們、叫我們能用 神所賜的安慰、去安慰那遭各樣患難的人。)

In conclusion, when Churchill and the British faced the German attack and the most difficult situation during the Second World War, they never surrendered but continued fighting. Let us follow their good example and never surrender to difficulties.