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October 12, 2025

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"...BOAST ABOUT MY WEAKNESS"

Some years ago, a sister of mine gave me a walking stick that she had made for me. It is hand-carved. The top of the staff has the head of a ram, replete with curved horns. About ten inches below that on the staff is the carving of a small wolf's head.

It is a work of art and stands in the corner of my office. But she got it for me to use for stability and ambulation. But I am stubborn and only recently have started to use a "normal" cane and at times a wheeled walker that I keep at the church building (I have another at the house, yes in my office). So what caused me to start making use

of such devices? I am working to change my perspective and come to realize that my physical limitations, whatever they may be, cannot thwart me from service to God.

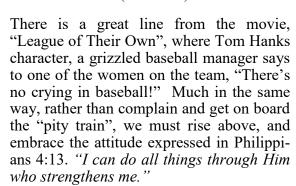
As Paul noted in 2Corinthians 12:9, "And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness' Most gladly, therefore I will rather boast about my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may dwell in me." Then in verse ten, Paul continues. "Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong." All of should take resolve from the mind set of Paul. Whatever our limits may be, with God's help we can rise above.

So while I may not be able to scale Half-Dome or water ski or do so many things I once was able to do, nevertheless there are an amazing amount of things that I can do, to which I give all praise to God.

There is learning in every stage of life. Each one of us, young, old, in robust health or dealing with limitations need to celebrate what we can do and look for ways in which to be of service (see Romans chapter 12). By adopting a like mind set of Paul's (see

also 2Corinthians 4:5-10), it is possible to see our so called "limitations" in such a way so as to go about life with the utmost of conviction and dare one say it, courage.

He gives strength to the weary, And to the one who lacks might He increases power." (Isaiah 40:29)



There are 1440 minutes in a day. The task each one of us faces is to come to grips with the way things are; find a level of contentment and put into practice what is found in Ecclesiastes 9:10, "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might...". Make each one of those precious minutes count for the greater advancement of the cause of Christ and a deepening relationship with the God of Heaven. "Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans." (Proverbs 16:3) (wbe)



