



What Are You Keeping in Your Basement?

"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. Jesus Christ in Matthew 15:14-16 (NLT)

The youngest of four kids in a family with little money, I ended up with an old hand-me-down, red Huffy bike to ride. It worked fine, but the rage in the early 70's was to own a stingray. I always felt these were out of reach for me, but one fortunate birthday, my parents surprised me with a beautiful yellow one, banana

seat, high handle bars, slick and all. I loved it! But there was a problem. You see, I lived on the edge of Cleveland and at that time, nice bikes were stolen all of the time. Stories were common, kids getting knocked off, locks cut, you name it. Bikes stolen. I remember seeing one kid with a shinny new bike riding around the playground. Another kid, not much older, came over to admire it. He offered him a quarter to ride it. Need I say more?

I was petrified to ride my new stingray. I didn't even want to store it in the garage for fear of someone breaking in to steal it. So I kept it in the basement. "Smart!" I thought. The result? I kept riding my old, red Huffy. No one would steal that. My nice, shinny, yellow stingray stayed that way as it collected dust in the basement, held hostage by my fear.

I look back now at how fear led to my foolishness; a gift wasted. I think to myself, I'd never let that happen again! Yet, isn't that what happens? Fear comes in all shapes and sizes and doesn't go away just because we are older and wiser. Some would argue that our fears are even bigger now. No, fear still expertly exerts the same power over us.

Where there is fear, a gift is being wasted.

Think of the gifts that God has given each of us; incredible gifts! I wonder, "How many of God's gifts are being kept safe in the basement?" Or as Jesus said, "under a basket." We love the idea of our gifts, but using them might be a risky endeavor, right? We may not be respected. We might have to make some hard decisions or shift our path. Riding the old, red Huffy is good enough we say to ourselves...beautiful gift wasted.

I imagine what my parents may have thought about my new bike sitting day after day in the basement. They sacrificed to buy it for me. They never said anything, but I bet they were disappointed.

What might God be thinking about his children as his perfect gifts gather dust in our basements?

Your gifts are a key part of God's plan. He calls us to step out in faith to use them. In fact, they shine best in the midst of adventure. The incredible news is that he protects you when you step out, as if I had a private security guard watching over me as I rode that shinny, yellow stingray.

The Mission Curve™ process guides you to the Adventure God Made You For, where you will be called to use your gifts fully. You might be surprised to learn you've had many gifts hidden in your basement. Engage the Mission Curve™ Process. It will change your life.

Guaranteed.

Follow the link below to schedule a free consultation on how to start the process.

[Mission Curve™ Process - Guaranteed](#)

Spirit Talk

(Post this where you can see it regularly)

"I will not waste my gifts. I will use them to serve others."

"God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another." 1 Peter 4:10 (NLT)

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