

Your Shiny Yellow Stingray



“You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. 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. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.”

Jesus Christ | Matthew 15:14-16 (NLT)

The youngest of four kids in a family with little money, I ended up with a hand-me-down, red Huffy bike. It worked fine, but the rage was to own a stingray. 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, rear slick and all. I loved it! But there was a problem.

You see, I lived on the edge of Cleveland and back then nice bikes were frequently stolen. It was common to hear stories of kids being knocked off while riding, locks cut... you name it. Once, while a kid with a new bike was riding around the playground, another came to admire it. He offered him a quarter for a ride. Need I say more?

Not only was I petrified to ride my 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. A smart move... except for the unintended consequence. I kept riding my red Huffy, no one would steal that! My precious stingray collected dust in the basement.

Reflect: Has fear pushed my God given gifts into the basement?

I've since thought, "I'll never let that happen again." Yet, it does... ugh! Fear doesn't lose its influence just because we're older and wiser. In fact, one could argue that they're more powerful now. There's more at stake, right?

After all, using your gifts might be a risky endeavor. What if you embarrass yourself while attempting to do something you've never

done? Or, perhaps capitalizing on your gifts would require you to make a hard decision to shift your path, change your lifestyle. Eek! Hesitation allows your fear to flourish. In the meantime, you'll keep "riding the old, red Huffy" and, before long, the status quo becomes good enough.

***Consider:* When fear is allowed to flourish, God's priceless gifts are wasted.**

My parents sacrificed to buy me that stingray. I wonder what they may have thought about it sitting day after day in the basement. I bet they were disappointed. Think of the gifts that God has given you, incredible! Are some gathering dust in the basement, or, as Jesus said, hidden "under a basket?" Think about what God sacrificed to give them to you. What might he be thinking as they sit in your basement? What are the unintended consequences?

***Imagine:* Courageously using all of my gifting to advance my Mission.**

You are a key part of Jesus's kingdom building plan. He calls you to step out in faith by using your gifts. Let your good deeds shine! In fact, they shine brightest in the midst of the challenging adventure that results from advancing your Mission. This is where God stretches you to reach your full godly potential. So be strong and courageous!

"So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you."

Moses (Deuteronomy 31:6)

The liberating news is that God protects you when you step out. Consider him your private security guard, intent on allowing you to ride...

Your Shiny Yellow Stingray!

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach's Questions

- What is my Mission challenging me to do?
- What hidden gifts hidden might be discovered by courageously stepping up to do this?
- What fear must I confront to move ahead? What promise of God will I rely on to counter my fear?

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

"What's gathering dust in my basement?"

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



Don't know your Life Mission?

Need a plan for how to move ahead? Engage the Advisor Guided, **Reach New Peaks Workshop**. It will change your life. Guaranteed. Schedule a free consultation on how to start the process:

“

If one is seeking direction in life and looking forward to new adventures, **this workshop is the perfect trail map** to get you to your destination!”

~ DAN B.
Life Mission: Shaping radical existence in the everyday



Mission Curve Process—Guaranteed

Adventuring with God

Blog Posts



A Continual Feast?

I love all types of animals. When I was a kid I remember going to downtown Cleveland with my sister. She was 12 years older than me and tons of fun; never a dull moment with Judy around! We ended up passing through... [Keep reading](#)



What Stands Between You and God?

Once in a while I need a kick in the butt spiritually...know what I mean? The good news is... [Keep reading](#)

[View All Blogs](#)



Our mailing address is:
Mission Curve Advisors
18160 Cottonwood Rd PMB 440
Bend, OR 97707-9317

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

