

Just Keep Moving!



“It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”

The Apostle Paul | Galatians 2:20 (NLT)

My oldest financial clients told me their secret to living... “Just keep moving!” Each morning I realize how much harder this is becoming!

I saw a video of a massive bull musk ox amid attack. While a single wolf was no match for him, the pack nipped and pestered, quickly

jumping away when he lunged. Over the course of hours, they wore him down, rendering him defenseless. Have you been pestered, nipped, surrounded... worn down? I sure have been.

I told myself to “Just keep moving” only to realize the insufficiency of this self-discipline. Struggling, I cried out to God, “Is my path destined to be like that oxen’s!”

“Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. Each time he said, ‘My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.’ So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me.” The Apostle Paul (2 Corinthians 12:8-9)

I begged God to chase my life draining wolves away, yet they remain. Instead, he challenged me to go deeper to appreciate what Paul meant when he said, “Christ lives in me...” and “...the power of Christ can work through me.”

Reflect: Am I becoming worn down by worldly nips and pestering?

Desperate, I asked, “Lord, how do I experience your power?”

“My power works best in weaknesses” ... As I considered this, the Spirit prompted me, “Why would I display my power if you cling to your own?”

“Lord, help!” they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He led them from the darkness and deepest gloom; he snapped their chains.” King David (Psalm 107:13:14)

Surrender! Though against my nature, I realized that failing this step would render me defenseless like that ox. My strength was not

enough... the evidence proclaimed this!

Consider: **Surrendering frees me to move in the Lord's power.**

Though released, moving ahead on my same path seemed lacking. I recalled Nehemiah. Overwhelmed with sadness upon hearing about the Jews in Jerusalem, and knowing their needs far exceeded his ability, he turned to the spiritual realm.

"When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven." Nehemiah (Nehemiah 1:4)

Nehemiah didn't just toss up a prayer or two over a few days. No... He confessed, prayed, and fasted day and night for four months! Only then did he begin to move ahead. He knew experiencing God's power meant moving on the path where God was leading... his Mission.

Pray Fervently! Challenged to stretch beyond my normal ho-hum, routine prayers, I asked God to realign me with his Mission for my life.

Imagine: **Christ's power working through me because I'm faithfully advancing my Mission.**

Plagued by far more than a thorn, Paul always had a pack of wolves surrounding him... lashings, stoning, shipwrecks, even snake bites... Nothing deterred him from advancing his Mission!

"As Paul gathered an armful of sticks and was laying them on the fire, a poisonous snake, driven out by the heat, bit him on the hand... But Paul shook off the snake into the fire and was unharmed. The people waited for him to swell up or suddenly drop dead. But when they had waited a long time and saw that he wasn't harmed, they changed their minds and

decided he was a god.” (Acts 28:3-6)

In fact, advancing his Mission amid his wolves displayed Christ’s strength working through him... they thought he was a god! Paul trusted God would fulfill his Mission... no matter what! Would he have experienced Christ’s power had he not faithfully worked to advance it?

Trust the Son of God! I realized that Jesus was not about to offer me his power until I stepped to advance my Mission in faith despite my wolves. Hard, but good!

Now, having entirely new meaning, here’s my secret to living...

Just Keep Moving!

Go off the grid and ask these questions:

Coach’s Questions

- What wolves am I trying to fight with my own strength? When will I surrender this fight?
- Set aside time to pray and fast. What will I pray for?
- Convinced that Jesus will fulfill my Mission, what step of faith will I make amid my wolves?

Spirit Talk

Post this where you will see it regularly.

Press on in Jesus' Power!

“No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end

of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

The Apostle Paul | Philippians 3:13-14 (NLT)



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~ DAN B.

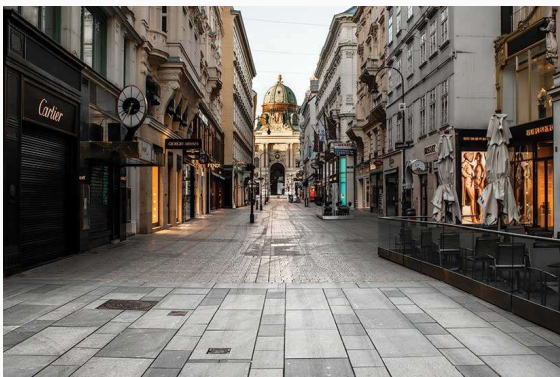
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