

"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



RESILIENCE

There it sits, a little white ball covered in dimples. Carefully placed a-top a peg stuck in the ground. You A can't see that it is all a quiver. It knows what is coming. It knows that for the moment, its whole reason for being there is to sit waiting. Suddenly, the wait is over, and the expected happens. The great WHACK! In the backside by a hunk of wood swung by a masochist. For just a fraction of a second, its backside flattens. As it launches from the peg in the ground, it changes shape from round to egg-shaped and then, as planned, snaps back into its original shape, and the dimple turbulators do their stuff of controlling the airflow so maximum flight length is reached. And why can this little white ball do this again and again? It is because of the elastic resilience built in by the maker.

So, how often has life whacked you in the backside, and instead of flying towards the intended goal, you finished up on your face, perhaps hurt, perhaps humiliated, perhaps not sure what happened? WHACK!- made redundant? WHACK! Family troubles. WHACK! Society is telling you, "You don't matter". WHACK! Life has lost its meaning & joy. WHACK! (...your story...)

Maybe try thinking about this. God tells us he has made each of us unique with an inner strength that he put there and maintains if we let him. God's son Jesus demonstrated this by never giving up no matter what happened to him. He relied on the strength that comes from his Father. His word tells us, "My grace is all you need, for my power is the greatest when you are weak." (**2 Corinthians 12:9**). "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." (**Psalms 73:26**). "Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." (**Nehemiah 8:10**)

I once cut open an old golf ball only to find that the stuff inside that made it resilient had gone hard through lack of use. Put God and his love out of your life, stop talking to him, stop listening to him, stop working with him and the resilience he put into your life as a part of YOU. There is a good chance that your "resilience" will go hard, and the day comes when there is no "bounce back" in life, and everything else becomes hard, even The ability to love and accept love.

Jesus knows life can be tough, but left us these words, "We are hard pressed on every side but not crushed; we are perplexed but not in despair; persecuted but not abandoned; struck down but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. (**2 Corinthians 8-10**) and also, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid". (**John 14:26-27**) Trust him, believe him, and ask him to help you always know his love, so be resilient and able to bounce back.

God bless,

Kevin.