

Pastor's Weekly Devotional- September 4, 2014

"A New Approach to Life"

Here's baseball trivia. Who is Clint Courtney? I'm sure you have never heard of him. He didn't even come close to making it in The Baseball Hall of Fame.

Clint played catcher for the Baltimore Orioles in the fifties. During his career he earned the nickname "Scrap Iron" – implying that he was tough. He broke no records – only his bones. He had little power or speed. He had no grace or style. But he never flinched from any challenge.

Oftentimes, he doubled over in agony when the ball caught his shin, nipped his elbow or when runners ploughed into him. But he never gave up.

Clint's approach to baseball should be our approach to life's game. In life, we are thrown many curve balls, face numerous blows and have to endure plenty of unexpected losses. But how can we rise up when "the dust settles" and go on like Scrap Iron Clint? Here's a few thoughts:

- Know that God cares about you. "You are precious and honored in My sight...I love you." (Isaiah 43:4)
- Know that God will give you strength to get up again. "The Lord gives strength to His people." (Psalms 29:11)
- Know that God will give you His Grace to go on, to go forward. "God gives us more grace." (James 4:6)
- BE SECURE IN GOD'S LOVE FOR YOU. "God loves you with an everlasting love." (Jeremiah 31:3)

I have to be honest. At times it is difficult to have courage under trying circumstances. However, it is also true that the Grace of God and the Love of God will always be present in those situations of life.

Here's a wonderful promise to remember: "I can do all things through Christ..." (Philippians 4:13)

Remember this Sunday is Grandparents Day. Communion will be served. Our regular schedule begins at 10:00 a.m. Hot dogs for everyone!

Have a blessed week!
Pastor Sewdin