In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock. Some of the Kings’ wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway. The peasant learned what many of us never understand!

EVERY OBSTACLE PRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE OUR CONDITION. (a story sent to me via e-mail)

Oh, if we were actually able to see every obstacle as an opportunity to improve our condition! What would our lives be like if we were able to have a revelation of this truth? What instantaneous victories would we experience? What heartaches would we avoid? How many doubts would we overcome? How much peace would we have?

There are nuggets of gold under every situation of boulder-like resistance and difficulty. We need to “read between the lines,” “take time to smell the roses,” and “see the light at the end of the tunnel.”

Right now, what opportunity is disguised as an obstacle to improve your condition? Is it doubt and unbelief? Sickness and disease? Unemployment or under-employment? Money? Separation or divorce? A job? A job you hate? Children? Someone who has died or is dying?

In Matthew 17:20 Jesus said “… if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.”

Jesus never let the obstacles of blindness, deafness, deadness or denseness get in His way. He never let Pharisees, Scribes or Sadducees get in His way. He never let a crown of thorns, three nails, a whip, spittle, the pulling of His beard or a cross get in His way.

For our obstacles to be turned into opportunities that improve our condition, maybe we just need to express faith as big as a grain of mustard seed. Perhaps we need to speak to that obstacle (mountain), “Be thou removed!” Or simply humble ourselves like the peasant by taking the time, expending the effort, and operating in the perseverance that eventually moves the boulder out of the way.

Some thoughts from a guy still learning to deal with the obstacles of life,

Pastor Don