



Newsletter

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TRYING SOMETHING NEW

This past year I have slowly picked up carving. Why?

My Gramps and my dad do it

I really don't have a hobby

So I told myself one day that I would really like to try it. I have a few different kinds of knives, a sharpening set, a carving chisel made from Switzerland (supposedly the best), some starter wood (bass wood because it is soft and easy to work with), and band aids for when I cut my fingers (which happens more times than you would think in the same night).

I was carving a snowman this past week and I was almost done and my knife went too deep into the wood and I actually broke off most of the snowman's hat. Well now the snowman is useless and I have just wasted the last 4 hours of my time in carving. I threw the snowman away and I went upstairs frustrated, grumbling to myself, and a little dejected (I see how good my dad is and I see how bad I am).

I was standing in our hall way with my head against the wall talking to myself and these words came out, "the only thing I have ever really been good at is coloring". And it is true. I am an incredible talent when it comes to coloring. I know which crayon to use and how to stay in the lines. I don't press too hard and I keep my hand off the paper so I don't smudge the fresh wax I just laid down.

The problem is, Jack is catching up to me.

Our Christian life can be, in many ways, the same way. As you grow, perhaps you would like to take on "bigger" roles and responsibilities but are perhaps, timid in trying: maybe you feel someone else would be better at this than me. I tried and failed before

The problem is, when you cease to keep challenging yourself, moving forward, and increasing your desire to serve God you will find yourself doing what children can do (probably because it is easy). At times it will be frustrating, but the fear of failure can keep you coloring when, perhaps, you're supposed to be doing great things.

II Timothy 1:7 - For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

Jesus gave Peter and the others a choice (first in Matt 4:19 and then again in John 21): they could keep fishing (doing something they could do blind folded) or they could fish for men (it's more difficult but so much more rewarding).

What do you want to do? I say let's all keep moving forward. Let's strive for great goals! Let's see what God can do with those who are just willing to try something new.

Pastor Andy