

He Grew Tired but Never Grew Weary

I first met Roger shortly after his heart attack when he came into my store to purchase a bicycle for exercise. I learned that he had lost 40% of his heart function and could no longer work due to his disability. In spite of his physical limitations, he was always busy helping others that lived nearby in his small neighborhood. He became the unofficial repair man that helped people with home repairs that they would otherwise not have been able to afford. It seemed he was always going out the door with a smile on his face and with his tools in hand, to help someone in distress.

Sometimes Roger would get really fatigued and say that he really needed to stop helping people so much, but a few minutes later the phone would ring and he would be gone on another mission of mercy. I learned that Roger's ministry of helps did not stop with just his many mechanical skills and that often he was just as busy giving hugs and wise counsel to those whose lives were in crisis or turmoil. One of Roger's neighbors told me how his encouragement had helped her during some tough times.

What Roger's physical heart lacked in capacity was made up for by the giant size of his heart for God, his love for his three sons and his heart of compassion for friends and strangers alike.

I saw him at church one Sunday and we joked around as he arrived and went inside. Later that day his son called to tell me of Roger's passing while he was out helping someone with a home repair. I pray that I can follow the great model he put forth and that even when I'm tired I'll continue to be available to help others in need, as he did.

Galatians 6:9-10 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

“Lord, help me not to become tired when doing good. Help me to be your hands of love that reach out and minister to others in both their physical and spiritual lives.”

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