

# MY FAITH...

## *An Exciting Journey*

My faith is an exciting journey based in a loving relationship with Jesus Christ. As a little boy, I went to a private school in Jamestown, North Dakota. My family, teachers and staff nurtured my faith. “*Jesus Loves Me This I Know*” became my theme. It gave me great comfort to learn I am created in **God’s image**. I, at a young age, needed no more proof than that. Even to this day I take comfort in the simple knowledge that Jesus **does** love me, cares for me, and is watching over me. Sure, there has been the question, “Why was I born with cerebral palsy?”

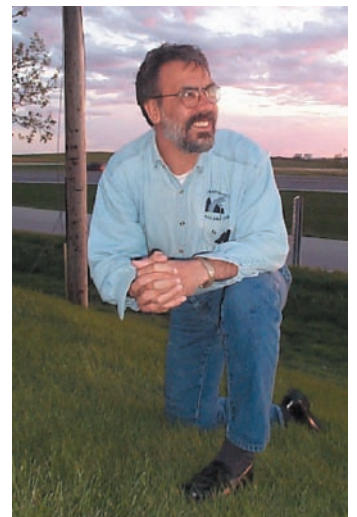
However, even with this disability, I learned to read. I read in the Bible about the people who went before me and the promises made to me. I read that I was chosen (John 15:16)! What does that mean for a person with cerebral palsy? Can God use me? Indeed He can! He has chosen me to spread the good news of Jesus Christ! My disability does not dictate who I am — my faith does. Many people make the mistake of seeing a disability like mine only as a limitation, but I see it as a way God will use and minister through me. How does one use weakness like mine to gain strength? God’s grace does exactly that — turns weakness to strength by the power of His Spirit!

It is easy to focus on our weaknesses. At one time I was very angry about my disability. It became bigger than I was and took over. I knew I couldn’t live with this anger ruling my life. I knew that Jesus Christ needed to rule. Now every morning when I wake, **I reclaim the fact that God chose me and I am His**. As God uses me in each instance of this journey, my disability becomes an asset to this vocation.

Since 1978, I have had the privilege to speak to thousands of people throughout the country. Many have heard my testimony and are affected by my faith despite my disability. Everyone has weaknesses and limitations. This is not the point. **What we do with them is the point**. I have been chosen to encourage others to trust God’s promise that He will make the weak strong.

I challenge you to think how your limitations can be turned into a gift for others. See yourself as a gift from God, chosen and redeemed. God will use you! God turned my disability into a positive so that I could help people and use it for His glory. I am bigger than my disability because Christ rules in my life.

Ben D. Anderson



BEN D. ANDERSON

*I knew the book I held was one of great importance. Even though, at the age of ten, I couldn’t read its words or understand its concepts, I knew it was important. I knew that it contained promises meant for everyone and that included me. God had given me a ‘foundation of faith’ even before receiving that first Bible from my parents. I was born with cerebral palsy. I grew into a man of simple faith and have shared my heart with many people, speaking across the nation.*

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