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For there is no partiality with God. Romans 2:11 (NKJV)

Thought for today...

In the game of chess, each piece on the board has a function. The object of the game is to 'checkmate' the opponent's king, leaving the king incapacitated and with no room to manoeuvre. The 6 different types of pieces (the pawn, rook/castle, knight, bishop, king and queen) move differently to each other, at a different pace and are not held in equal value. The pawn (although greater in number than any other type of piece), holds the least value and is often sacrificed so as to safeguard a piece of greater value. Other than on its first move and unlike other pieces, the lowly pawn is able to move forward only one square at a time and cannot move backwards.



Perhaps you have been told that you hold little or no worth, and believing this lie, you liken yourself to the pawn - the piece considered to be the least valuable on the board. Luke 9:1 (Good News Translation) tells us that Jesus **'called the twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases.'** Note that He did not first assess which of the disciples had been with Him the longest, or who held the greatest popularity with the crowds; He gave His power and authority to all of them.

Just like the more highly valued pieces on the board, the pawn has the same power and authority to ‘checkmate’ the opponent’s king. Perhaps you may feel that you are not advancing in life at the same pace as those around you, and that whilst others seem to be taking leaps and bounds, even a snail could overtake you?! Perhaps you bear no title that will signify your relevance to others, but God wants you to know that He can use **you** in your pawn-like status, moving at a snails pace to ‘checkmate’ the enemy! Jesus said **‘Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.’** Luke 10:19 (NKJV).

Although the king has a higher value than the pawn, and is often considered to be the most important piece because it cannot be taken off the board, it too can only move one square in any direction. However, the modest, unassuming pawn - unlike any other piece - can choose to be promoted to whatever type of piece it desires (other than a king or a pawn), if it reaches the other side of the board!

A day is coming soon when Christ will return to take the king of this world off the board: **‘He seized the dragon - that old serpent, who is the devil, Satan - and bound him in chains for a thousand years.’** Revelation 20:2 (New Living Translation). Until that day, let us as followers of Christ use the power and authority that we have been given to checkmate this world’s king!



Others may deem our value and status to be low, but like the pawn let us not move backwards, let us instead advance square by square, taking ground from the enemy and building God’s kingdom until we reach the other side and receive our reward.