

Cane With a Nail In It

Sometimes when we focus on helping others, we solve our own problems. That certainly proved true for David, an 8-year-old from Wisconsin with a speech impediment. His problem made him hesitant to read aloud or speak up in class.

David's mother also had a problem – multiple sclerosis. One winter day while she and David walked, her cane slipped on an icy patch and caused her to fall. She was unhurt, but the incident left David with the desire to do something to help her.

Sometime later, David's teacher assigned his class to create an invention for a national contest. He decided he would invent a cane that wouldn't slide on ice by putting a nail on the bottom of it. After his mother expressed concern about the nail damaging floor coverings, he developed a retractable system. Much like a ballpoint pen, the nail popped out of sight when a button at the top of the cane was released.

David's invention earned him first prize in the contest. As the winner, he was required to make public appearances and communicate with those who expressed an interest in his project. The more he talked about the cane, the less noticeable his speech impediment became.

Who needs your help today?

They may not desire you to invent something for them. They may simply want your assistance on a project, a word of encouragement, or prayer for a particular need. As you extend the effort, time and energy to help someone, you will find something inside of you healed, renewed or strengthened.

An outward expression toward others always does something inwardly that enables, empowers and enhances the character of Jesus Christ in us.

That's God's principle of reciprocity!

And it is a major reason why our associates in Life Care, Century Park and Life Care at Home find such satisfaction in their work.

Pray for each other so that you may be healed (James 5:16)

– Beecher Hunter