

Daily Devotion For June 5, 2022

⁶ Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6

On Friday, I standing in the check-out line at a grocery store and right behind me was the father of Mina Harigae. I had heard that Mina had the first round lead of the Women's U.S. Open golf tournament, but when I saw him I said, I'm looking forward to seeing how Mina plays today. Then he told me that she had already finished her second round and was still in first place. As I write this, Mina is 3 shots back of Minjee Lee as the tournament wraps up today.

For those of you who know Mina, she is a product of Monterey, a graduate of Robert Louis Stevenson, and her parents own a Japanese Sushi restaurant (Takara) in Pacific Grove.

Mina was a four time California Amateur Champion, (her first at age 12), won the 2007 US Women's Amateur championship and was expected to make it big on the LPGA tour, but for years she never lived up to the expectations. She went through some dark and difficult periods and a few years ago had only \$2000 in her bank account and was almost ready to give up golf. However, when Covid hit, she spent time on the Cactus tour and won 4 times.

In 2020 she rejoined the LPGA tour, became a member of the 2021 Solheim Cup team and has had the lead in the Women's British Open and now the US Women's Open. It is good to see how Mina's perseverance has paid off. She didn't quit and now she is in contention for the premier women's golf tournament in the US.

Thought For Today: Feeling down and ready to quit? We need to remember that God is God in the good times and in the bad times, whether we are on the top of the mountain or in the deepest valley. As God spoke to Joshua, He also says to us today; "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Today's Prayer Focus: Thank God for his abiding presence with us in good and challenging times. Lift up our Worship service today. Deo Volente.