

You know you are getting old when your favorite football players haven't suited up for over 40 years. But, in my opinion, my favorite professional football team, "your Green Bay Packers", hasn't had a real running back since Paul Hornung. (I recognize that this a mostly meaningless name to many of our readers, but, you can Google him and get the details.) The thing about Paul, good old # 5, was that he could get through a line. Actually, in order to be a successful running back you have to get through, or past, two lines of players: your own front line of 6'4" 300 pounders, and then the other team's line of giants. Good running backs follow their blockers and get a few yards per carry. Great running backs see an opening among the conglomeration of human flesh and get through it or around it in the blink of an eye and they are off to the end zone.

Paul Hornung could see the opening and enjoyed a great career from that talent. There are lots of good athletes. What makes for great athletes is always that "something extra", and in team sports, I think that something extra is a special sense of vision. They just see situations on the field or court that others miss.

I was talking this week to a friend who was passing through a restaurant when a person familiar to him said "hello." These two people had previously been quite good friends, but circumstances had separated them. Their relationship had almost completely ended. But, his friend said "hello." He saw the opening. He stopped in his tracks, asked if he could join his friend in the booth, and they talked for 20 minutes. As he left he told his friend, "you made my day." Restoration was happening. Healing had begun.

My friend could have kept up the "cold war" and just nodded his head and kept on going. But he didn't. He sensed a "God moment" and broke through the lines that had formed between them. He did a great end run, a good old "Packer sweep", where he just ignored the old defenses and ran right around them into daylight. As we talked about this experience, I commented that it would be great if we could all just have one experience like that each week. My wise friend said, "We do. We just have to see them."

As you head off onto the playing field of life next week, pray for the ability to see the openings. "Run to Daylight". Ask the Spirit to give you a keen sense of vision, and may you see the God Moments which will make your day.

Shalom,
Bill