



## NOT BY THE SKIN OF MY TEETH

**KEY SCRIPTURES:** 1 John 4:4, Romans 8:31-39

I love the movie *Facing the Giants*. It is definitely one of those feel-good movies, true to its name, where David meets Goliath and beats all the odds to the amazement of everyone watching.

One of the things I love to do when I have my own personal copy of a movie is to watch all the extras that come with it. I love the interviews with the actors and actresses, the mistakes that land on the blooper reel, the behind-the-scenes action where the director is directing and the stage crews are hustling and the props don't cooperate and the actors are goofing off. I love that "human" side to any movie, where I know people just like me are doing something they hope someone else will love.

During one of the *Facing the Giants* commentaries, a comment was made that I wrote down in my journal. In part, the gentleman said that the movie did not come about by the skin of their teeth, but by the grace of God. He said there were many times that things that weren't supposed to come together, did.

Not by the skin of my teeth.

If you have never heard the saying before, doing something by the skin of your teeth means that you barely made it by the slimmest of margins, a margin as thin as the skin of your teeth. (That's thin!) I have lived a lot of my life by what I now know was the skin of my teeth, barely making it because I lacked the faith to dream big dreams and live in the grace of a big God.

I no longer want to live by the skin of my teeth. I want to live by the grace of God.

God's grace is big, and it's complete, and it's enough. God's grace holds me tight enough so that I have the freedom and the courage to fly. It gives this David the strength to face the giants. And win.

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*Facing The Giants*. Alex Kendrick, Director. Destination Films, Samuel Goldwyn Films, Sherwood Pictures, 2006.

"...so we can know our value, live with purpose, and make a difference...**In that order.**"