Carol and I have enjoyed watching parts of the Olympics. We have watched people do amazing things. One thing that this Olympics has taught us is that records were made to be broken. As I watched the various winners react to their own achievements, it reminded me that boasting and bragging about our abilities is always out of place in God's view. Let's look at these verses together.

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NIV) This is what the LORD says: "Let not the wise man BOAST of his wisdom or the strong man BOAST of his strength or the rich man BOAST of his riches, [24] but let him who boasts boast about this: that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the LORD.

From: Future Grace "Each one - wisdom, might, and riches - tempt us to take satisfaction in ourselves - our intelligence, our strength, our material resources. Each one lures us away from TRUSTING God as the superior satisfaction above them all. It is radically humbling to confess that the source of all our joy <u>resides outside ourselves</u>." (Piper pg 88)

What a challenge: I need to realize that when I seek after knowledge and try to do things by thinking it through or figuring it out myself I may be turning away from God. I need to acknowledge that when I do anything in my own strength and power I am trying to make my life work on my own and Refusing to Trust God. Or when I pursue the material things of this life rather than my relationship with God I am settling for "stuff" which will never fully satisfy me on the deepest level.

Prayer: Lord God help me to seek after to YOU, to seek to know You better and better and to grow in my enjoyment and satisfaction in You.

Pastor Mark Kieft