

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW: BERNHARD LANGER
Friday, November 6, 2015



DAVE SENKO: Well, Bernhard, thanks for joining us. A 2-under 68 today. Maybe just a quick synopsis of your day. Birdied three of the first four holes and 32 on the front, 36 on the back.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, I think 68 is most of the time a great score, just not necessarily today for me when I had that start, 3 under after four, I really had it going. Three-putted 7, that was a terrible mistake, just hit the first one too hard and then missed the four-, five-footer coming back. Yeah, I had a nice birdie on 9, those were three perfect shots. But then the back nine it just struggled a bit. I hit a good wedge into 10 which flew over the green, had a miraculous up-and-down. On 11 I had a great shot in there but missed the putt. 12, missed the fairway, then over the green and had a horrible lie, so made bogey there. Just wasn't quite clicking. 15 I hit three really good shots, pitched right by the hole and spun it off the green. It was at one stage landed a foot from the hole, went forward and then came, I don't know, 16, 18 feet backwards. It's just that kind of day. Then on 11 I hit a great -- no, not 11. 13 I hit a beautiful wedge in there and hit a good putt and it horseshoed out on me like 180 or 360, whatever. Just things didn't go my way. Good thing the last putt kind of lipped in. I thought I hit a good putt on 17 but didn't go it, and then finally made one on 18 from six feet or so. So it was just a bit of a struggle on the back nine.

DAVE SENKO: Did you three-putt 17?

BERNHARD LANGER: No, I missed the green right but I chipped it up pretty close, about six feet, and then misread the putt or pushed it, I'm not sure. I looked up and the ball was right of the hole.

DAVE SENKO: What were your birdie putts on 1, 2 and 4?

BERNHARD LANGER: One was a 3-wood, 8-iron about 10 feet. Two was 6-iron to about 15 feet, and 4 was driver, 6-iron again about 12, 15 feet, something like that.

DAVE SENKO: And on 9?

BERNHARD LANGER: 9 was a 3-wood, 8-iron about six feet.

Q. Bernhard, a little big picture here. If you weren't playing golf right now, what do you think you would be doing or what do you think you would want to be doing?

BERNHARD LANGER: No idea. I am playing golf, I have been playing golf for 40 years, so I haven't even thought about what would I be doing if I hadn't been playing golf. It's just what I've been doing. That's a tough one to answer. It will come to that eventually, I guess, and then we'll see. Whether I retire or whether I get involved with, you know, some kind of

philanthropic idea or church or something else, I don't know yet, or some other way in golf.

Q. It basically sounds like you haven't even considered anything other than what you're doing?

BERNHARD LANGER: No, not at this point. Always said as long as I'm healthy and having fun and playing well, I'll continue. Those three things have been happening for the last 40 years, so I'm still there.

Q. Got a lot of good feedback on the post I wrote today about your comments on your faith yesterday when things were going well, so can you give us some comments on how your faith sits when things don't go as well as you want it to?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, that's an appropriate question, especially went to fellowship last night. We have a Bible study every week out here and Larry Moody, who actually led me to Christ 30 years ago, he was our chaplain again. He used to be out on the PGA TOUR, now he's out on the Champions Tour. Anyways, he spoke about valleys and peaks and how easy it is to praise God when you're winning, and not just winning as a golfer but when things are good in life, when you're in the sunshine, when you're healthy, when whatever. You're making good paychecks, your relationships are good and all that kind of stuff, it's easy to praise God. But how about in the valleys, you know? Some people have a hard time when you're in the shadows in the valleys when things aren't going well, when you're diagnosed with cancer, when your child dies, when also sorts of things happen. You lose your health, you lose your job, you struggle with all sorts of things.

So we had a great study there last night and I went over it again this morning and I try to take it to heart. So I had a few shadows today, a couple of valleys I had to conquer, but hopefully I handled myself well. That's the idea. It's a bigger picture. This is all very brief and permanent. When you look at it from an eternal perspective, this is meaningless in a sense, you know? Very short lived.

Q. So everything --

BERNHARD LANGER: We're too much in the temporary and we're not considering what's after this. That's the bigger picture. So I can always be grateful even when things go bad. It was all about thanksgiving and being grateful. I can always find things to be thankful for and grateful for no matter how bad things may be.

Q. Because you know how the story's going to end?

BERNHARD LANGER: Exactly, yep. He didn't promise us a great life here, but He promised us a great landing, a great smooth finish, whatever you call it when we get there.

Q. Thanks.

BERNHARD LANGER: You're welcome. But I'm not going to give you a sermon every day, okay? Just kidding, I'm just kidding. I enjoy that, thanks.

Q. You talked yesterday to Dave Marr about how you were at peace yesterday. Did what Pastor Moody said that night, did that give you that type of peace today when not all the putts were going in?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, it's just the peace of going there knowing there's a bigger picture. We're going from the land of the dying to the land of the living, not from the land of the living to the land of the dying. That heaven is far greater than the earth will ever be and being in the presence of good is -- he mentioned Payne Stewart, and Payne Stewart when he passed away was tragic. I'm sure he missed his kids and his wife and his friends, but I'm convinced he didn't want to come back. Once he saw heaven and was in the presence of good, he didn't miss earth at all. That's the bigger picture I'm talking about.

Q. When I asked you about what you would be doing, I thought you might say missionary work, pastoring, any of that stuff?

BERNHARD LANGER: I threw some of that out, I said philanthropic work, church, but I don't know yet. Maybe be involved in golf because that's my life, it has been my life for a long, long time and that's what I know better than if you tell me get into investment banking, I would say what? No clue.