

Preacher's Pen points

The Lasting Effect of Little Things!



All spring and summer as we have approached the building we have enjoyed the flowers planted near the door. Little by little they continued to grow and flourish. Almost every day I've noticed them as I came into the office; and you have undoubtedly noticed and enjoyed them as you came into the building for worship. Those flowers teach us the value of little things.

The Value of "Little Things"

Every day all throughout life we have the opportunity to do something small that can have lasting impact on others. I fear we often neglect to do them because they are small. We convince ourselves that our little efforts could not make that much difference, that we must do something great for God in order to make a difference. Not so!

When the Jews returned from captivity and rebuild the temple, there were many Jews who compared it to the glorious temple of Solomon. The present temple seemed so unimpressive in comparison to the former one that they wept in sorrow for their paltry effort (Ez. 3:12). But God had a different view, sending the prophet Zachariah with an encouraging message: *"For who has despised the day of small things" (Zech. 4:10)*. He urged the people to realize that this small beginning was under the watchful eyes of God who would use it for His glory.

Consider some small things that will make a difference today!

Greet a visitor—Recently a visitor commented about the friendliness of the congregation, mentioning that they had been welcomed in the parking lot by one of our members, a small thing that had a great impact.

Ask a question or make a comment in class—Everyone can benefit from the open discussion of the word of God. If you have a question, someone else probably is thinking it too; but is hesitant to ask. When you ask, you may open up a door of learning to someone else. If you have a good comment, make it. You may add something that others need to hear.

Commend someone for a good effort—Every person who makes an effort to serve God deserves a word of appreciation and support. That's what causes a person to keep trying to improve oneself.

Invite someone for a meal—One of the things we all need is more involvement with one another and especially with new Christians and new members. The opportunity to visit over lunch offers all of us a chance to learn more about each other's lives and build bonds of love and appreciation for one another.

Send a card to a newcomer—A number of times I've heard new people who have decided to worship with us indicate that they were encouraged by a card from a member after their first visit, a little thing that had a great impact.

Look for the "little things" you can do!

We thank the men who prepared the area near the door for planting and to Ladina Braden and Sandy Scott for taking the time to plant a few flowers this spring. We have all enjoyed them all summer and they have taught us a valuable lesson about little things. Hopefully each of us will look for more "little things" to do.

—Johnny Felker