

# Making a Big Difference in Small Ways

Lim Li Chhoan - 24 Jan 10

# Small Things Can Make a Big Difference

- “That old cliché, I know, I know.” But do you really know?
- It might not seem such a huge revelation to you. But....
- This statement has its truth and power.
- It is liberating because at times we feel our lives or what we do is insignificant
- It gives inspired revelation in every area of life...in marriage, relationships, friendships, business, areas of evangelism and reaching our unsaved friends and family with the gospel.

# Small Things Can Make a Big Difference

- In the ordinary routine of our lives we can see the value in the ordinary things we do.
- By taking a closer look we can see how God is using us far more than we realised.
- We will be able to see and be in awe of the wonderful, marvelous ways that our heavenly Father works and touches the hearts and lives of people everyday...through you and me.

# Don't be trapped . . . .

- in the belief that small things don't count.
- thinking that it is only the big, enormous works that impress God and the people.
- believing we got to do only the big things to make an impact.
- On Reflection: Have we limited God to the point where we believe that He cannot have eternal purpose in the small, everyday things that we do?

# Here's the key....

- What appears to us as insignificant and minor is being used by God.
- Jesus used the mustard seed to illustrate how a little amount of faith can make a huge difference in life.
- [Matt 17:20](#) He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

# Here's the key....

- Do you realise just how much influence you can be?
- Do you realise just how much light you carry with you simply by being a Christian?

"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it useful again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world-like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. Don't hide your light under a basket! Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

(Matthew 5:13 NLT)

# 1. Small things are good because they can be done everyday

- Countless opportunities every day to do things that can make an impact. Eg..
- Bring a smile to someone's life
- Ask someone how his/her day is going
- Write a quick email to a friend to ask how they are.
- Praising the Lord whilst eating with people or visiting the sick brings in the presence of God.
- Pick up a few groceries for a friend who struggling with money.

**2 Corinthians 9:11 'You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.'**

- We tend to limit the 'generous' to extravagant things, like big sums of money
- but "generous on every occasion" includes the small day-to-day things in our words, our time, our kindness and these things can be small.

# Random Kindness - toll bridges

Small ways- Big Impact

- Small things that can be done everyday:
- Looking out for people even in the smallest of ways like opening a door, baking a cake or looking after a neighbour's kids for a few hours are ways that God communicates worth and value to people.
- use your smile, your kindness and the way that you carry out the routine of your life to touch and impact others with His love.

- Not reacting in a road rage situation! Being graceful to people in such situations.
- It is often the small expressions of God's love that lead the way and open the door for people to meet with Jesus on this level.
- Small things sow eternal seed into people's lives - seeds of goodness, love and acceptance which all come from God.
- **Colossians 3:12** 'Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.'

Spend a moment every day  
thinking of someone to love

Small ways- Big Impact

## 2. The Small Things could be the Tipping Point

- The book 'The Tipping Point' by Malcolm Gladwell is about the tipping point - a term defines as the 'one dramatic moment when everything can change all at once.
- His book outlines how lots of collective small things contribute to resulting in one huge event or change or epidemic.
- There is only 1 degree of difference between hot water and boiling water. That 1 degree is the tipping point making water not just hot, but boiling. Think about these tipping points.

## 2. The Small Things could be the Tipping Point

- A tipping point in my life was a decision I made on 30 June 96 to become a christian.
- This decision is about my future – my commitment and ultimate walk with God
- Maybe you are facing a really hard situation where nothing seems to be changing but let me encourage you, the tipping point will come, so press on.
- You never know where or when the tipping point will occur but it will if you don't give up. It might be one small prayer or one small kind word away.

### **3. Small things are apart of Heaven's bigger picture**

- You never know when your small action might be hugely significant in someone's life
- If you think about your own salvation, it was probably a series of small steps that got to that decision of becoming a Christian.
- It might have been several conversations with friends, reading some books or articles, looking through a pamphlet you received, or maybe other more subtle or what you believed to be insignificant things helped point you in that direction.

# Our lives can make a difference

- [Ezekiel 22:30](#) God says, "I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall of righteousness that guards the land. I searched for someone to stand in the gap in the wall so I wouldn't have to destroy the land, but I found no one" (NLT).
- God is looking for that ONE who can make that difference. You may have been put there in a situation to be an influence.
- God can do a lot with a little.

# Conclusion

- "I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do. What I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do."
- One godly man or woman can make a dramatic difference, even in the darkest of circumstances.