



***“So, let us not grow weary in doing what is right,  
for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.”***

***Galatians 6:9***

***“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside  
every weight and the sin that clings so closely,  
and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us ...”***

***Hebrews 12:1***

***“I keep the Lord always before me;  
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.”***

***Psalms 16:8***

A story worth sharing:

“I was a secretary in a large eastern city before I retired, and one of my weekly functions was to record the city council meetings. Very early on, I began to notice that every week during the public-input portion of the meeting, this very polite woman would go up to the podium and talk about the desperate need for recreational opportunities for inner-city kids and then return to her seat. In addition, she would send a letter on the subject to every council member each week – sometimes with stories of how kids tried to compensate for the absence of opportunities, sometimes just passionate pleas, occasionally with newspaper clippings about the reality of things that were happening to those kids.”

“Now I have to tell you that budgeting money for inner-city recreation was very low on the totem pole. But year after year she kept coming and kept writing. Pretty soon, I noticed that the council members were greeting her in the hall almost as an old friend. Nothing miraculous happened, but, gradually, the budget for the recreation department began to grow. Even in years when other departments were being cut, somehow the council was convinced that the recreation department had a particular compelling project in midstream, and its budget would increase marginally. She kept that up for almost ten years, and in many ways was the most effective advocate I ever saw appear before the council.”

The problems of the world seem to be so huge that it's very easy to feel that nothing we can do will help. But like the recreation advocate, who seemed to have the impact of the mosquito and the perseverance of the ant, we too are very capable of transforming our tiny corner of the world when we put our effort and God given gifts to work. We too only need to take one small step in that direction.

But I fear that too often we feel like we are just an ordinary person spending our days trying to survive in this crazy world. We forget that there is nothing ordinary about any of us! Every single one of us is an extraordinary being with divine gifts for service. And every one of us has the ability to make this world a better place. Not one of us can say we are "too small" to make a difference.

So, that being said, what step is it that is waiting for you to take? Where is it that your passion and interest reside? How might you, with Christ in your heart, right here and right now, continue to work and plow the ground slowly but definitely to bring change in your corner of the world?

**Prayer:**

**Almighty God, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, but always to your glory and the welfare of your people, through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen**