

Small things!

In a world where so much seems way beyond our control, we are occasionally attracted by the small things – those situations which are within our power to make a difference.

It was just a small thing – but it seemed significant. We live in the city so our local walks are residential roads. We have developed an internal radar system that alerts us to elastic bands: the sort dropped by our otherwise very thoughtful postmen. We always pick them up. Why? The postmen are told not to worry about dropping them as ‘they are biodegradable’. Maybe they are... but not before the birds mistake them for worms and choke on them. So, we save a few birds and never need to buy elastic bands as we’ve acquired hundreds.

So many small things in life are worthy of notice and of appreciation. A passing smile. A kindly enquiry. A phone call. A cup of tea. Sharing a silence. A prayer...

As the Queen said in one of her Christmas broadcasts: *“We sometimes think that the world’s problems are so big that we can do little to help. On our own we cannot stop wars or wipe out injustice, but the cumulative impact of thousands of small acts of goodness can be bigger than we imagine.”*

Jesus showed us how to value the small things in life and how to make a difference in a wild world: through loving kindness. So, take heart in the little things.

Be joyful. Keep the faith. Do the little things. (St David of Wales)

Dear God, we give thanks for the little things; for earthworms, bees, ladybirds and broody hens; for humans tending their gardens, talking to animals, cleaning their homes and singing to themselves. For the rising of the sap, the fragrance of growth, the invention of the wheelbarrow and the existence of the teapot, we give thanks. We celebrate and give thanks.

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