

“The Smallest Thing”

[Mark 4:26-34](#)

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By Rebecca Enney

Mr. and Mrs. Mawakasunga are away in Tanzania for the summer, so it is just Elizabeth and Aunt Gertrude who have come to church this morning. They are the hosts. Have you ever helped be a host? That means you shake everyone’s hand and give them a bulletin and help them to feel welcome as we gather to worship our Lord.

“Good Morning.” said Aunt Gertrude to a man she did not know. “Are you visiting today?”

“Yeah, my son is parking the car.” said the man. And he went in and sat down without taking a bulletin.



“Well, well, well” said Mr. Potato Head with much self importance as he came in followed by his family.

“Hello!” said Elizabeth to him and Mrs. Potato Head and Haman Potato Head and Polly Potato Head. She noticed they all had their smiles on, which is a good thing! “Here are your bulletins.”



“Good Morning.” said Aunt Gertrude to Barabas as she handed him a bulletin and looked rather closely at the scar on his face.

“Hi!” said Barabas, trying not to be obvious about looking at her neck.



Next Mr. Gym Teacher came in and said “Good Morning Elizabeth. Did you happen to see my father come in? He’s visiting from Ohio.”



“What does he look like?” asked Elizabeth. “Oh, he looks a lot like me. Well, I guess it’s me that looks like him, except he is not into soccer. He always plays baseball.”

“Oh, he sat over there in the back. Here, he forgot to take a bulletin.” said Elizabeth.

Later in the Worship Service, when it was time to pass the peace, Elizabeth remembered that Mr. Gym Teacher’s father was visiting from Ohio so she went back to shake his hand and say “Peace be with you.”

Pat, that is Mr. Gym Teacher’s father said “Oh.” He was not familiar with passing the peace and didn’t know to say in return “And also with you.”

Then after church, Elizabeth saw Pat standing alone in the Gathering Space.

“Would you like a cookie?” said Elizabeth. “There are a lot of good ones over there if we hurry.”

“Ok.” thought Pat, so they walked over to the table.

“I hope you liked being here this morning.” said Elizabeth, trying to start a conversation.

“It was okay.” said Pat. “I never go to church back home in Ohio.”

He ate his cookie, said thank you and goodbye and went outside to wait for his son.

“What a friendly little girl.” thought Pat as he went out.

God can take the smallest thing and make it really count for something grand in the end. That tiny bit of friendliness that Elizabeth showed to Pat may encourage him as he considers church when he gets back home to Ohio.

Even children younger than Elizabeth (who is in second grade) can bring about great faith in grown-ups. I can only imagine the faith that baby Carson Nicholas, who was baptized this morning, will bring to his mommy and daddy.

Remember, you are never too small for God to use your actions to accomplish his great purposes!

THE END