



REFLECTIONS

April 11, 2021

"Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

John 6:9

Small Things

That night at McDonald Observatory, the vastness of the star-filled sky made me feel small. Never had I felt less important. I felt no larger than the smallest of the tiny twinkling lights above. It's hard to feel relevant amid such a setting. It's easy to say God's time is not our time and his ways are not our ways; but it's not so easily grasped until you see yourself in the fullness of His great creation. How can something as small as your lives and mine make much difference to His infinite kingdom?

Since the beginning, more and more small things have been revealed to mankind. Discovery of microorganisms added to mankind's understanding of the science of life. Small acts of kindness, compassion, and love awaken us to the power of them on our daily lives. Small things are as important to God's creation as air, water, and food are to human life. God made small things. God does great things through small things.

Jesus compared the kingdom of God to a small thing: **"[It] is like a mustard seed, which is the *smallest seed* you plant in the ground. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds of the air can perch in its shade."** (Mark 4:31)

Jesus fed 5,000 men with only five loaves and two *small* fish. (John 6:8-9) And He watched as a poor widow put in two *very small* copper coins. **"I tell you the truth," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."** (Luke 21:3-4)

God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things — and the things that are not — to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him. (1 Corinthians 1:27—29)

Now look at ourselves: small among billions alive today; minuscule compared to the untold numbers who lived before; and off the radar when numbered among those who are yet to pass through this world in the course of time. Yet, no matter how small or insignificant we may feel in the vastness of God's creation, He made each of us for a reason too. God uses small things to make a difference.

He made you and me to be among them.

You are the light of the world,

Richard +

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