FAITHFUL IN LITTLE THINGS

Christian Character in Action Series: Lesson 2

- **Luke 19:17** The Lord has taught us that we should do the little things in our lives to the best of our ability for the honor and glory of God.
- **Luke 16:10** When you show that you are willing to do the little things properly and efficiently, anyone watching will know that you can be entrusted with larger responsibilities.

If you can't be trusted with the smallest things, you should not be trusted with anything.

- Do you steal supplies from work? (Pens, paper, office supplies. Restaurant supplies: food, condiments, silverware, etc.)
 - This is petty theft. You are just as likely to embezzle large amounts of money from the company.
- Do you sleep on the job or slack off when you should be working? In a higher position, that kind of performance could bring the whole company down.
- Do you give your best performance at work, giving attention to details, even going above and beyond what is expected of you? At promotion time, that diligence will be remembered.
- What kind of husband or wife are you looking for? When considering a potential spouse, pay attention to the <u>small</u> details of their life. Those will reveal something about their true character.
- God is watching your willingness to serve Him. How are you doing?
 - Are you only taking care of the things that people can readily observe, while you disregard the things that they probably wouldn't notice?
 - Are you giving your best effort to teach the bible and reach the lost for Christ?
 - The Holy Spirit of God won't fill you until you get all the little things right that nobody else sees but you and Him.
- **1 Jn 5:3** Those who love God will do His commandments and not find them grievous.
 - If you don't agree with God's commandments, you might still obey them, but they will be burdensome to you. There is no love in that relationship.
 - Children often reluctantly obey their parents. They will do only the bare minimum that is required of them.

- When children reach the point where they want to please their parents and begin doing what is required without being commanded, their chores will no longer be a grief to perform.
- Church members are the same way. They may begin serving reluctantly, but not really enjoying it. It may take time to learn to obey commandments without grief.
- **Heb 12:5-13** (Vs 5) We are instructed not to despise the Lord's chastening (physical correction) or to quit when He tells us something we're doing is wrong (rebuke).

(**Vs 6**) God's chastening shows that He loves us. If you don't correct your child, it shows you don't love them.

(Vs 7-8) If God is not correcting you, it is because you are not His child.

(**Vs 9**) We gave our father respect when he corrected us. We ought to show God at least that much. Our subjection to Him will enable us to live the abundant life that He wants for us.

(10-11) Chastening and rebuke is not fun, but it is necessary and can yield righteousness later.

(**12-13**) Learn to take chastening without grumbling. It will help you straighten up your walk and keep you out of a lot of life's troubles.

Is God chastening you about some little thing? Take heed! Be faithful to correct your wrongdoings. It will help you to avoid some bigger problems.

1 Tim 1:12-13 Being faithful may seem like a small thing to you, but it is a very important factor in whether or not God will trust you with anything (ministry, marriage, children, career, etc.). God cannot trust an unfaithful person with an important task.