



Monday Matters December 9, 2013

The Best Things in Life

There is a sweet little Christmas song that became popular in the late 1950's. It is the Little Drummer Boy written by Katherine Davis. She lived during the Great Depression and understood the meaning of giving modestly but willingly and lovingly at Christmas time as there was little resources to spend on lavish and extravagant things. I remember Christmas time in the 1950's. Christmas for our family was still simple and certainly lacked the drama of today's Christmas celebrations.



And so Katherine Davis portrayed in her song this fictional character, the drummer boy, coming to Jesus with seemingly nothing. He understands that this is a moment to give something to the baby, but he is of humble means and sees his gift will not be spectacular for this spectacular moment...Christ's birth.



Inspirational Thoughts from Alaska

Anthony Nelson and family are missionaries to Bethel, Alaska.

Read about some recent happenings in the village of Kotlik.

Quote of the Week

"Give of your best to the Master;
Naught else is worthy His love.
He gave Himself for your ransom,
Gave up His glory above.
Laid down His life without murmur,
You from sin's ruin to save.

Tentatively he asks Mary if it would be appropriate to play his drum for baby Jesus...king baby Jesus. This is all he can give. There is one line in this song that grips my heart. He recalls, "I played my best for Him."

The BEST for Him...the BEST for the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. How can we miss this in life? What is our best? Is it fearlessness, intuition, discernment, ability to love easily, patience, caring, the will to accomplish, goal-setting...the list could go on and on and is wide and varied.

In John chapter 12 there is a story about a woman named Mary. She comes to Jesus at a supper time and pours a costly ointment on Jesus' feet, rubs it as in an anointing, then wipes it with her hair. This action of Mary causes us to know her in a special way. She gave the best she could give to Jesus in a manner that reveals this woman has a deep sense of love for Jesus and who He was...a Savior, her Savior. Did you "watch", did you "feel", did you "see" what she did? This kind of reverence makes the world go still and quiet. In this "still and quiet" you can sense the profound love for the Son of God. What a privilege to "witness" this humble act of giving the best.

Often we are drawn into feeling pretty secure and maybe a little proud and smug about our "best." What an interesting notion when you think about it...the reason we have any "best" qualities is because we were blessed and gifted with that "bestness."

So, what should we do with our best? Should we use it to make our life the best life possible without regard for the maker of our best? Or, should we give our best to Jesus. I am assured God wants us to use our gifts and talents to build a good life...a life that includes giving our best parts back to Him.



What do you consider to be some of the best parts of your life? How can we all give glory to God for those best parts AND include giving back to Him of our amazing blessings?

Give Him your heart's adoration;
Give Him the best that you have"

~ Howard B. Grose ~
from the song
"Give Your Best To The Master"

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