Rev. Thomas Emery "The Small Thing Is the Main Thing" Matthew 10:40-42 Salem Presbyterian Church Sunday, June 29, 2014

The word picture that the Greek paints for "abundance" actually means an overflowing abundance. Not that your cup is full, but that it is flowing over the rim. The cup is so full that it is spilling out into the saucer. God wants our lives overflowing with His love, His joy and His peace. He wants our lives so full with all the gifts He has to give to us, that it overflows into the lives of other people around us.

If you were to picture your influence for Christ as a fountain it would look something like a four tiered fountain. God fills up the top tier. That tier represents you. He then fills you so full that you spill over into the next level, the second tier. The second level represents the people who are closest to you, that would be your family and friends. The third tier represents your community. The fourth tier represents the world. God wants to have an impact on us to have an impact on our family and friends to have an impact on your community and finally to have an impact on the world. Today we are going to talk about how you can have an influence for Christ on the entire world.

TEACHING POINTS

Teaching Point One: Doing small things can show God's love at work.

Teaching Point Two: Simple acts done with great love will change the world.

Teaching Point Three: Realize the significance of the act is not based on who we are, but who Jesus is through us.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward" (Matthew 10:42 ESV).

ACTION POINT

We are to touch the world in the same way that Jesus touched the entire world. Jesus changed the entire world by touching people one at a time. He accepted people where they were. He talked to them. He listened to them. He helped them in times of crisis. He served them. He gave a word of hope to those who viewed life as hopeless. He offered direction to those who were on the wrong path. Simple acts done in love seem so small, yet when you realize God is at work through them, you discover the great life of sharing Jesus in practical ways. Let's share Him in love!