

The Little Things

by Wayne Goff

I found in my office files a story about a man who walked from the Golden Gate bridge in San Francisco to New York City. He was asked what was the greatest difficulty along the way. The interviewer suggested it was probably the great mountains that exhausted his strength, or the turbulent, swollen river he once had to ford, or maybe the hazards of the desert's biting wind. Surprisingly, to all these obstacles the traveler said "No!"

After a little while the traveler finally said, ***"What almost defeated me in my journey across the continent was the sand in my shoes!"***

Isn't that amazingly true? It's not the mountainous things that keep most Christians out of heaven! It is the small, seemingly trivial things. The desire for a little more rest on Wednesday nights, the thought of making a little more money, or just a little more fun on Saturday evening. Sometimes it's that harsh word spoken by a brother or sister that just cannot seem to be forgotten. Yes, we can lose the battle over the little things, my beloved brethren!

"And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (Gal. 6:9). *"Lose heart"* is translated in the KJV as *"faint not."* Romans 2:7 speaks of *"patient continuance in doing good."* Can we keep on keeping on until the end? Paul told the Corinthians to be *"steadfast, immovable"* (1 Cor. 15:58). Can we do that day in and day out, in good times and bad, through thick and thin? It is necessary to run the race to the end in order to win, and that is absolutely true in the Christian's life.

"Almost, but lost" are terrible words! Jesus said we must *"count the cost"* to see if we have enough to finish (Lk. 14:28). Don't let that "grain of sand" keep you from running the race. It might seem like a small thing, but over time it grinds, and grinds at you until you finally have to stop. Take the time to get rid of the little grains of sand that might hinder your life in Christ.

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