

Doing the Little Things

Years ago, a young man was working very hard as a section hand for a railroad company.

His superiors offered him the opportunity to work in the shipping office for a few days, and he jumped at the chance.

During that time, the superintendent asked the young substitute clerk for some vital facts and figures. "Have them on my desk when I get back in three days," he said.

The young man didn't know anything about bookkeeping, but he worked three days and three nights without sleep. He had the facts and figures ready when the superintendent returned.

The young man, of course, won the admiration of his superintendent, and as soon as a permanent position opened, he recommended the young man for the job.

Over time, the young man was promoted many times, and each time, he was applauded for his thoroughness and trustworthiness. He eventually became vice president of the Ralston Purina Company in St. Louis, Mo.

The lesson for us: Give each difficult task and each mundane chore or request your best effort. You will be rewarded not only according to the tasks you complete, but for the way in which you complete them.

Early in my career path, one of my mentors said: "Show me a man who cannot bother to do the little things and I'll show you a man who cannot be trusted to do big things."

There is much truth in that statement.

You have been faithful and trustworthy over a little; I will put you in charge of much (Matthew 25:21 AMP).

– Beecher Hunter