

Important Jobs

Do you sometimes wonder if the work that you do amounts to very much in the grand scheme of things? We may be prone to think that way, especially when we are tired or we have had an unusually challenging day.

Consider what M. Craig Barnes, then pastor of National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C., had to say on the subject.

He was asked to conduct the funeral for a man who had helped develop the famous Boeing 747 aircraft. After the service, he spoke with the widow and commented on how remarkable it was that her late husband had helped build that marvelous machine. She said, "The truth is, he worked on one little switchbox smaller than a loaf of bread. That's all he worked on for 15 years. But when that 747 lifted off the ground for the first time, it was the happiest day of his life."

The conversation had an impact on the pastor. "He worked on one small switchbox for more than a decade. Yet the huge plane couldn't have lifted off without this man's contribution. Often, we see only our seemingly small efforts and feel we aren't very important."

Every job in Life Care, American Lifestyles and Life Care at Home is important, and the mission cannot be accomplished without the dedication and contributions of all. And when we help someone's health to improve so that he or she can return home, or assist a resident through a very difficult time, the role we play – no matter whether it may be perceived as great or small – produces a special joy.

--Beecher Hunter