

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Have you ever wished you could do something that would make a difference and change your part of the world for good in some way? But did you ever feel that your life would leave no mark or notable achievement that would be remembered?

Ralph Waldo Emerson reportedly said, “The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived.”

Does that seem challenging? It’s often incredibly hard to step up and make a difference. More often than not, it will involve some sacrifice, and our lives may sometimes experience disruptions or a change of course. But history is full of men and women who stepped up, sacrificed, and did their part to make a difference.

We can all make a difference, every single one of us. That doesn’t mean that we can stop all wars, find a cure for cancer, or end all famine and poverty. But we can have the courage to speak up against things that aren’t right, we can take time to practice empathy and compassion, we can reach out to help those who are facing poverty or are in dire need, and we can take responsibility for our own impact on the world we live in.

When faced with the suffering and desperate needs of so many in the world today, you may not feel you have much to offer. But in spite of the difficulties, deficiencies, disabilities, or impediments, we each can do our part.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus spoke words that changed the world forever: “Blessed are the poor in spirit. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, the merciful, and the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God” (Matthew 5:3–9).

Jesus spoke the truth and led people into the kingdom of God. He was not concerned for His reputation, and shared company with the outcasts and downtrodden of society. He taught that the greatest commandments in His kingdom are to “love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and mind” and to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Luke 10:27).

During His life on earth, Jesus went about everywhere doing good—helping people, healing heartaches, strengthening the weary. He not only preached His message, but He lived it among the people. He cared for their spiritual and physical needs, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and shared His love.

Do you want to make a difference? God is calling each of us to be part of His grand plan to make the world a better place, one heart at a time.

“There is no greater joy nor greater reward than to make a fundamental difference in someone’s life.”

—*Mary Rose McGeady (1928–2012)*

Jesus wants to enter into a personal relationship with you and become a very real part of your life both now and forever in eternity. He stands at your heart’s door, waiting for you to open the door and invite Him into your life. (See Revelation 3:20.)

You can do this by sincerely praying this prayer:

Jesus, please forgive me for all my sins. I believe that You died for me. I open the door to my heart and I invite You into my life. Please fill me with Your love and Holy Spirit and guide me in the way of truth, so that I can, in turn, love and help others. Amen.

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