

Be faithful in small things

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Ladies and gentleman. I have a confession to make.

The speech that I'll share now wasn't the one I first planned. I had another speech prepared but I had to change it because it didn't quite work. I honestly didn't know what to write for this one. But this situation inspired my theme "be faithful in small things".

Since entering university, I feel this phrase - be faithful in small things - is becoming more and more important for me..

Since I was little, I have heard this phrase many times.

It sounds like very simple advice but actually it is really hard to follow.

You may be asking yourself – what does it mean, “Be faithful in small things.” It’s hard to explain but I’ll try...for me it means To be responsible and consistent in what you are given even when no one is watching.

Let me give you a few examples.

I think this speech itself shows the importance of being “faithful in small things”.

I struggled until the very last minute, wondering whether to sign up or not for the speech contest. And even after I signed up, I didn’t come up with the theme until the last minute.

It would be easy to say I was busy, or I was thinking really carefully about what to talk and I ran out of time, but those would just be excuses.

I know I could have managed my time better. So in this case I wasn’t really faithful in small things and I regret that.

I could’ve finished it earlier, but I finished it just before the deadline.

It was such a simple thing, yet I couldn’t even do that properly.

We can learn the importance of being faithful in small things even at home, with household chores. Among the many chores at home, what I mainly do is wash the dishes and dry them.

Ideally, I should do that right away after I get home but even in those small things, sometimes my mood or poor management of time does not allow that, and the dishes are still in the sink the next morning.

I could give you more examples of my failures but what I want to show is that even small tasks, which should be simple and easy, are surprisingly hard to achieve.

It’s not only housework, this also applies to my university assignments, attendance, my relationship with friends, and my other responsibilities.

On the other hand, I do have a small success that I would like to share. In my previous school I was taught the importance of taking notes.

So, I made it a habit to take notes in almost every class at school. Because I built up this habit gradually, taking notes in university now doesn't feel stressful for me.

This is a simple example of how being faithful in small things can affect your future. In my case taking notes had a long-term benefit.

In the bible, there is a passage which says, "Whoever is faithful in very little is also faithful in much, and whoever is unrighteous in very little is also unrighteous in much".

I think this applies to any situation. We can fail at even a simple task, if we don't take it seriously. And even if we manage it, I don't think we can succeed with bigger responsibilities if our attitude isn't right.

On the other hand, if we handle even small tasks carefully, I think that will help us to develop our character.

And we can become a person who is trusted with big things in the future.

Even if we think the things we do are insignificant, through the accumulation of those small things we can develop integrity and responsibility.

We can also understand "Be faithful in small things" by looking at a person from history, Martin Luther king. Let me introduce you to something he said. "An individual is judged not by the number of talents he possesses, but by his faithfulness in handling what he has. The question is not 'How much talent have you earned?' but rather 'How much faithfulness have you manifested.'"

In other words, we don't have to compare things we have, but we should use what we are given and be faithful to those.

We tend to look at results. But I think it is important to do the best we can, in the place we are.

I think that being faithful even in the simplest tasks is an investment in your future self.

I truly want to be faithful in the things that are right in front of me.

Of course, I make mistakes. But each time I fall, I believe it's important to stand up again, and continue being faithful to even the smallest things, without being affected by circumstances around me.

The way I started preparing my speech might not have been the best,

But through this reflection, I was reminded of the importance of being faithful in small things.

I hope this can serve as a reminder for all of you too.

Thank you very much for listening.