

Have you ever heard the common saying, "the present is a present"? While American culture is quick to embrace the idea of a gift, it can be difficult to recognize some blessings because they are small. However, as American poet Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn." As with acorns, wonderful things in life can start out very small.

Somewhere in the church's crowded pews, a young woman was debating over a decision that could drastically change her life. After the preacher finished his Christmas message, background music played in the lobby: "Mary did you know that your baby boy would calm a storm with his hand?" She froze, her raging emotions clearly shown on her face. Then the storm finally calmed. She would keep her child because no matter how small, that life mattered. After all, hadn't the man of whom the song spoke once been a baby too?

Humanity is just like a tapestry with many intricate threads. Every thread is vital to the tapestry; every thread has a beginning and an end that contributes to the masterpiece. In the same way, every person, no matter how small, is vital to the tapestry of humanity.

Consider Moses, one of the most well known men in the Old Testament .He was targeted as a baby, due to the fact he was a male Hebrew. Moses' mother could have just allowed the Egyptians to kill her son. However, she risked her life and managed to save her son by keeping him secret before floating him away on a river in a boat of reeds and bitamen. Moses grew up to lead the Hebrews out of the bondage of Egypt and into the Ppromised Lland.

As William Bradford put it , "Thus out of small beginnings great things have been produced by His hand that made all things out of nothing, and as one small candle might light a thousand, so the light kindled hath shone unto many." Just because something has a small beginning by no means proves that it is to remain "insignificant" .

On this note I challenge you, my dear reader, to consider a fact that many overlook: life is a gift, and small beginnings will have big effects on the world.