

# It's the Little Things

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Before I was a Christian, God set a couple things in my heart. One of them was to write a song called *Little Things* which enumerated all the ways we can “catch a glimpse of heaven” amidst the chaos and confusion of daily life. This was written over a decade before I found Christ:

*Gray day, the cold's against my window pane,  
is it snow or is it rain?*

*Wrapped in my cocoon, I wonder when I'll fly? Caught up in a mood*

*Drowning in a morning dream,  
they always seem so real*

*Take me to another place today,  
and hold me on the way*

*I'm trying to find the truth, looking for the day  
I catch a glimpse of heaven*

*Then I realize*

*With you by my side,  
you know I hear the angels sing*

*When I hold my child,  
you know I hear the angels sing*

*When I laugh out loud,  
you know I hear the angels sing*

*In all those little things*



Some lyrics for a non-believer, huh? I often come back to that song, a song that has a much deeper meaning for me now than it did when I wrote it, and take note of God's long-term plan he must have had for me and realize that is still unfolding. The song serves as a milepost in my life, one I can point to when I tell my faith story.

I also use it as a template for the present. I try to focus on the seemingly insignificant moments, the totally ordinary occurrences, and find the glory in them. I have taken note of some of the things that have recently made me “hear the angels sing”, things that if I tried to convey my overwhelming joy about them to others I would probably get blank stares or forlorn looks of puzzlement. Here are just a few:

- Elizabeth Abrahamson, our new Sound & Spirit director, getting baptized and joining our church. Elizabeth came to us at the very last moment through an acquaintance of mine at the Newhall School District...but neither of us had met her before she started teaching choir that Wednesday in September. I praise God for the gift of Elizabeth and her husband Jason.
- Gol Werner and her children getting baptized. Arianna, Gol's daughter, is in my choir, Rejoicing Voices, so I was thrilled to witness Arianna and her brothers' baptism. When I later heard that mom also got baptized that day, I could have done a back-flip!
- Also the Goldsteins' and the Paynes' baptisms...I am such a fan of adult baptisms (I wonder why...)
- I got my first baggie with a muslin square and a few colorful scraps of fabric tucked inside. "Michael Fernandez" was written in black Sharpie on the outside... I ("we" really, it was for me and my husband Phil) have been asked to contribute a piece to Michael's Senior Quilt. Besides my own daughter, when she was a Senior, I have never been asked to create a square. I feel such a sense of honor and privilege to be a part of such a special project.
- I've been at Christ Lutheran for over three years now, but just recently, out of the blue, little Matthew Berrey has been coming up to me, giving me a hug and saying "Hello, Robin Hyland". I don't know what I did to deserve this beautiful token of appreciation, but I'll take it. That makes me "hear the angels sing".

Like I said, little things. It makes me think of how those soldiers must feel when they open up a care package from Hands & Hearts, or how a volunteer at Lutheran Social Services must feel when someone walks in with armloads of groceries to donate, or how someone who's suffering must feel when they wrap a hand-made shawl around their shoulders, knowing someone has taken the time to pray for them while they were knitting it. Maybe they "catch a glimpse of heaven".

Keep in mind the many service opportunities available to each of us on a regular basis. If you would like to contribute your time and/or talents, but don't know where to start, please contact me and I'll help you find the best fit for your situation.

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*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.*

Romans 8:28