Daily Devotion #205

**Last-Minute Details**

**Luke 2:6 (NASB)** *“While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.”*

Many of us are last-minute people. What I mean by that is we usually wait until the last minute before we take care of final details. Most of the time this is not purposeful, but still it happens. I have always been amazed and also admired the people who have their act together. I’m talking about the people who are able to juggle a lot at one time, and seemingly have everything land perfectly in place. That is a great quality, at least in my mind.

I wonder about Joseph and Mary. Were they people who had their act together? Were they people who cared for the details as they were making their way to Jerusalem? The Bible doesn’t mention anything like that. So it makes me wonder how they were dealing with the challenges of getting to Jerusalem. If we think about the two days before Jesus was born, I wonder what was going through their minds. Were they close to Jerusalem on their journey? How much farther did they have to travel? Did they know they were going to have to make last-minute and makeshift preparations for the baby to be born. I don’t think they had a clue.

But somehow, God made sure all the details were cared for. Isn’t that amazing? No matter what personalities Joseph and Mary had, whether they were detail people or not or whether they had what they needed as you and I would think about a journey like that, God saw them through.

As I think about our lives and different personalities, some people are detail people and others are not, it is greatly comforting to know that God is with us - that He helps us take care of the details we don’t know about or don’t think of in this life. I’m thankful that He has the ability to see the big picture and can work through all of our weaknesses and strengths to accomplish His purpose.

As you make your final preparations for Christmas morning, I’m sure some of you are running around inside your minds making sure the details are taken care of. I’m sure some of you are thinking about those last-minute gifts that you would like to buy and trying hard to figure out if you can make it happen. I’m sure some of you are reminiscing of Christmases gone by. As much as you have put energy into your thoughts, I pray you have put just as much energy into where your life stands with Christ.

Think about Joseph and Mary again. Do you imagine there was a nervousness about being the parents to the Son of God? Can you imagine what must have been going through their minds two days before there lives would change forever and that they would be responsible for Jesus? Wow! That’s a lot to take in. Those are a lot of details.

But can you imagine how they must have been examining their own hearts? Can you imagine how they must have wondered what God was seeing in them? Now imagine that was you. You are either Joseph or Mary and you know that God has called you to such a task. Do you think you would be paying attention to the details of your heart and your relationship with God? I think you would. I think we all would.

Let’s translate all that to our souls. Let’s be people who pay attention to the details of our souls. We may struggle with the details of day-to-day life, but we need to be people who know where we stand with God. I want to challenge and encourage us all to make sure that our souls are safe with Jesus. Those are details worth taking note of. The joy of it all is that all He wants is our hearts. Surrender to Him the control over your life, and put Him in the driver’s seat.

Wouldn’t this be the most awesome Christmas to know you simply let Jesus have His way in you? I can assure you that you will not be disappointed with how well He can handle the details of your life – even the “last-minute” ones.