

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

“Your spirit, not your size, makes the difference.”

Luke 9:48 (MSG)

THE AVERAGE PERSON may feel too ordinary to do anything considered special or of great value in our world. While most of us would like to make a difference, what can one person do, anyway? Haven't we all expressed that sentiment at one time or another?

Though a recent mailing, I learned that fifteen-year-old Gabe and his eleven-year-old sister Livvy approached life differently from most of us. A couple of years earlier, those two had scrolled through a Samaritan's Purse gift catalog and decided they wanted to help renovate a missionary hospital overseas in a needy area overseas. But how could two young kids accomplish something that huge?

They set to work baking. Selling their hundreds and thousands of cakes and cupcakes later earned them \$35,000. Their gift paid for a new maternity ward, which opened two years after their initial dream. They not only traveled there for the dedication, they baked cupcakes for everyone as well. The first baby born in that maternity center was named after Gabe.

Jesus was teaching one day about the importance of using our talents. He said when His disciples stand before Him in heaven one day, He will unveil the “difference” their lives have made for Him on earth. To those questioning Him that day, Jesus surprised them: “Whenever you did one of

these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me” (Matthew 25:40, MSG).

It’s not our size that makes a difference, but our willing spirits. Gabe and Livvy learned that lesson early in life. I’m praying that I will learn it too.

--REBECCA BARLOW JORDAN

FAITH STEP: Ask Jesus to give you a dream of how you can make a difference for Him. Then offer yourself and your abilities for Him to use anyway He wants.