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"Majoring on Minors"

I realize little things matter.

Often, as the saying goes, *"the devil is in the details."* If we don't pay attention to the little things, we can lose ground little by little and the really important things slip away before we realize they are gone. The writer of the Song of Solomon reminds us to *"take the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines."* (Song of Solomon 2:15) Often it's the little things that matter.

At the same time, it is always important to keep the main thing the main thing.

It's important to stay focused on the issues which really matter. When I was a student at Asbury College, we spent a lot of time arguing over men's hair and women's skirts. The college had a policy that men's hair could not touch the collar and women's skirts had to touch the knee. Really. And that was in the late 1960's. At the same time, the nation was in turmoil over Civil Rights while students on other campuses were demonstrating against the war in Vietnam. Looking back, I would say we were majoring on minors and missing the main thing. In response, I remember someone once saying, "You shouldn't waste your ammunition on a minor skirmish."

I thought of that when I read about the brouhaha over the one tableau in the Olympics opening ceremony.

Folks who immediately compared it to the Last Supper went on a

righteous rampage, only to learn that the director said he was depicting not the Last Supper, but the banquet of Dionysus from Greek mythology. Perhaps you could justifiably take issue with the celebration of a wild Greek bacchanal orgy, but lots of folks spent lots of internet time criticizing the wrong thing. And in the process, it just made the Christian community look silly.

For St. Paul, the main thing was “to know Christ and the power of his Resurrection.”

He said, *“This one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, my high calling in Christ Jesus.”* {Philippians 3:10}

In life, in faith, the little things matter. But the main thing that really matters is our focus in Jesus Christ, and that should matter most.

~Written by The Rev. Dr. Jack Harnish

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