

nov 14, 2022

## the starfish story

an old man walked across the beach until he came across a young boy throwing something into the breaking waves. upon closer inspection, the old man could see that the boy was tossing stranded starfish from the sandy beach, back into the ocean.

“what are you doing, young man?” he asked.

“if the starfish are still on the beach when the sun rises, they will die,” the boy answered.

“that is ridiculous. there are thousands of miles of beach and millions of starfish. it doesn’t matter how many you throw in; you can’t make a difference.”

“it matters to this one,” the boy said as he threw another starfish into the waves. “and it matters to this one.”

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many times, especially in these uncertain times, we may feel the effort is just not worth it. and truly, sometimes the effort will be wasted. does that mean it should not be made?

one of my favorite quotes was made by the preacher charles spurgeon. "if sinners be damned, at least let them leap to hell over our dead bodies. and if they perish, let them perish with our arms wrapped about

their knees, imploring them to stay. if hell must be filled, let it be filled in the teeth of our exertions, and let not one go unwarned and unprayed for.”

i am here today because someone told me about Jesus. because of that i know where my eternal rest will be. perhaps you also were told and are assured as well. it is for those who are not sure that my prayers are filled with tears each morning.

my mind cannot begin to imagine their place of eternal abode. to me it would be painful enough to be forever forbidden from the presence of a loving creator. then to have payment for all my transgressions laid upon me also - it must be almost unbearable. but the topping to it all would be that there would be no end to it. as others would be forever satisfied, i would be forever tormented.

the age of grace is closing but right now the arms of Jesus are still reaching for you. He wants you to know - you are the one that matters to Him! don't be the one left on the shore when the Son rises.