

THE IMPACT OF LITTLE KINDNESSES

Not every 30-second contact that you and I spend with a student will be remembered as long as the one Bill had with his Sunday School teacher, but it might.

Bill told me of a tradition his Sunday School teacher had. The teacher made a big deal about the boys' birthdays in his class. He bought a gift for each boy and presented it in class to the guy the Sunday before his birthday. When Bill's 9th birthday came, the teacher had forgotten to bring his present. He wasn't the class's most popular kid, so it was a big disappointment for him.

On Tuesday, his birthday, Bill was outside in front of his house. A car stopped in the middle of the street. It was his teacher. "Hi, Billy! I'm sorry I forgot your gift on Sunday, but I wanted to make sure you knew I thought about you. Here's something I picked out just for you. Happy birthday! Gotta go. See you Sunday."

I think we may all be a little like Bill. We can forget about an oversight, but years later, we can remember a kindness.

Bill told me this story when he was 20.