

Children's Devotion

Sunday, February 1, 2026

In the adult world, we sometimes get frustrated when weather like we have had recently gets in the way of our ever-evolving "to do" lists. It's hard for us big folks to STOP and see the gift the slight change in the world around us has provided . . . Because, well, we're too busy and now we have been inconvenienced.

But it's in the moments of the forced stillness, when life gives us no other choice that we truly have a moment to marvel, not just in the changed beauty around us, but in what we're fortunate to have: warmth, food, and shelter. Not all in God's beloved community have these essential elements. This doesn't make us "more loved," no, but it does amplify (BIG word, I know, think outside voice with a megaphone) our mission to follow God's teaching and truly love our neighbor as ourselves.

Look around you, your neighbor is everyone you can see, not just the nice lady who makes amazing cookies next door or the guy down the road who lets us sled down his hill. Our neighbors are all God's children.

Sometimes, God changes the world just a little so we can see it better. When it snows, everything feels different. Cars move slower. People walk more carefully, watching every step and eyeing a safe place for their foot to land. School days change. The world around us gets quieter. Snow and ice force us to slow down. When the ground, trees, roofs, and roads are covered in white, things we see every day look new and different. Frosted and ice-glazed trees sparkle. Footprints not only show where someone has been, but which of God's creatures have paid a visit. It provides a visible map of ALL our neighbors.

The world feels calm and still, almost like it's holding its breath and waiting for us to see it. The Bible tells us that God sometimes speaks in quiet ways: "Be still, and know that I am God." -Psalm 46:10

Snow helps us practice being still, even us big folks, especially us big folks! When we slow down, we notice things we might usually miss, as if God has given us a new set of eyes and ears to behold the world. In the stillness of these moments we notice: how peaceful everything feels, how bright the world looks, how small sounds soundly carry farther and how careful and kind people are to one another. Snow reminds us that God is always with us, even when things change, even when plans get altered or canceled completely, God is still there and so are God's children. Just like snow covers the ground, God's love covers us completely and it's our job to create fellowship with that love.

Sometimes God uses busy days to teach us and sometimes God uses slow days, like snowy ones, to help us listen, notice, and remember that God is always within us and our mission is to let that light shine through. So the next time you see snow falling, remember: God may be inviting you to slow down, to look closely, and to see God's world in a new way and most importantly to amplify (there's that word again) the love he gives to the world around you!

When it snows next, take a minute to think:

What looks different outside when it snows?

How does snow make you feel: quiet, excited, calm, cozy?

What is something you notice more when you slow down?

What is something you are grateful to have when it snows that you can share with those who have less? How can you work to provide what you want to share?

Let us pray:

Dear God, Thank you for snow and quiet moments, where we can see and hear your entire beloved community. Help us slow down and notice your world. Help us listen for you and remember that you are always with us. In God's name, Amen.

Stay warm, share love, and know I miss you all!

Ms. Lisa



you are the
Light
of the World.

LET YOUR
LIGHT
SHINE.

MATTHEW 5:13-20

