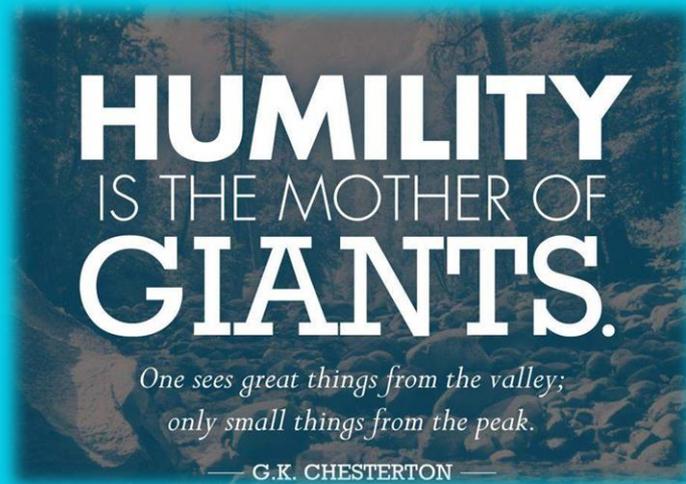


December 14th



She is always at the church premises by 6 a.m. wearing some faded jeans, an old T shirt and some slippers. She comes to clean and dust the seats, arranging them, decorating the altar and cleaning the whole place whenever it is needed. For six years she has never missed a single Saturday coming to do the church cleaning.

One Saturday a young man in a suit felt a compulsion to get up very early and go to church without understanding why. When he walked into the church he found the lady cleaning and arranging the chairs so he went and sat down watching her as she worked.

He was impressed that this good looking lady, even in the old clothes and a scarf over her hair, could be so dedicated to her work in church. Inwardly he thought that this was an unfortunate lady who probably didn't have anyone to educate her and now she would possibly be an orange seller or some petty trader struggling to make ends meet at the market stall. He watched and within his heart he felt he now knew what God wanted him to do. He went back to his car and took out two \$50 notes and when the lady finished her work and was about to leave he called her and commended her for her service and gave her the notes. She respectfully declined the gift but he insisted pressing it into her hands. He asked if she lived close by or if he could go drop her so she would not be late for the morning devotion. She thanked him and

told him that her car was outside, but he did not comprehend or even try to understand what she had just said. He walked her out determined to find out all he could about this lady that God wanted him to help.

They walked out of the church with him telling her where he worked and how God had asked him to come early to church that day and how he believed God is directing him to help make a big difference in her life. He was so busy talking he had not realized they had walked directly to a BMW parked under some trees in the parking lot. Her car made his one-year-old Benz look like a worn out wheel barrow.

The lady opened the driver's door stepped in and handed over her card to the man and said; "I believe God sent you here for a purpose, but I do not think it was to change me, most likely it was to change yourself". I am tempted to say it took a forklift to shut the young man's mouth and move him from the place he was glued to as the lady drove off. God had a purpose for bringing him to church that morning and that purpose was to teach him humility which he learnt well because now two people always arrive early to clean the house of the Lord.

Many times we think so highly of ourselves that where God sends us to learn we go trying to teach. We always imagine ourselves as teachers, never as students.

**Teach us, oh teach us to be humble Lord.....**

