



LIFELINE

HOLY MOMENTS

A God moment is something that happens that reminds me of God's presence, His love, or His goodness. I describe it as something that can't just happen by chance but rather is the result of a greater power called God at work.

I believe, and from personal experience, see how these things happen in the ordinary of our days, which I find fascinating. God is so great that He chooses to reveal His glory and goodness in our simple, ordinary lives. He is not just for the elite or those in high power. No, He is there for each of us, His children, made in His image, which He loves so dearly. Seeing these things happen brings me joy and a desire to share them with others so they, too, can be aware of them and see them in their lives.

I recently heard two sermons that inspired this reflection. The pastor called the events, as I described them, HOLY MOMENTS. I think that is a great term for them. Consider the definition of holy from the Oxford Languages Online Dictionary, which says: "dedicated or consecrated to God or a religious purpose; sacred." Holy, according to thenivbible.com, defines it as "being separate or set apart."

Have you considered.....that the word holy does not mean being perfect?

- ...your life as sacred and dedicated to God?
- ...that you personally are set apart as God's chosen one?
- ...that the ordinary moments in our lives can be holy moments?

Isn't it accurate to say that a holy moment is one where the following three characteristics are present?

God is present.

"Am I a God who is only close at hand?" says the Lord. "No, I am far away at the same time. Can anyone hide from me in a secret place? Am I not everywhere in all the heavens and earth?" says the Lord. –Jeremiah 23:23-24 (NLT)

The Lord reminds us all that we can never hide from Him because He is truly everywhere in both heaven and earth. There is no place that God's power and knowledge does not extend to. God is the only One who is omnipresent, able to be present everywhere!

God is actively at work.

So, because Jesus was doing these things on the Sabbath, the Jewish leaders began to persecute him. In his defense Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working." – John 5:16-17 (NIV)

We learn that God, Jesus, and the Spirit are always at work on this earth. Isn't it comforting to know that as we go about our daily lives? How often do we think we are in control of our lives? It is freeing to live knowing that we are not in control. God is!

We are totally present and aware.

As Jesus and his disciples were on their

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Santa's Trip



Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus."

It is truly heartwarming to know that millions

of people around the world believe in Santa. Sure, most are under four feet tall, but still it's amazing that so many believe in the big guy in the red suit. Consider the following:

Around the globe, today, live approximately two billion children (persons under 18). Santa doesn't visit all of them, of course. Subtracting the number of Muslim, Hindu, Jewish, or Buddhist children reduces Santa's Christmas Eve workload to 15 percent of the total, or 378 million children (according to the Population Reference Bureau). At an average (census) rate of 3.5 children per household, and presuming that there is at least one good child in each home, Santa must visit about 108 million homes.

Santa has about 31 hours of Christmas to work with, thanks to the different time zones and the rotation of the earth, assuming he travels east to west (which seems logical). This works out to 967.7 visits per second. That means that at each household with a good child, Santa has around 1/1000th of a second to park the sleigh, hop out, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left for him, get back up the chimney, jump into the sleigh, and get on to the next house.

For the purposes of our calculations we will assume that each of these 108 million stops is evenly distributed around the earth (which, of course, we know to be false). We're talking about a trip of 0.78 miles per household; a total trip of 75.5 million miles, not counting bathroom stops or breaks. To cover that ground in 31 hours, Santa's sleigh moves at 650 miles per second—3,000 times the speed of sound. By comparison, the fastest man-made vehicle, the Ulysses space probe, moves at a poky 27.4 miles per

second, and a conventional reindeer can run (at best) 15 miles per hour.

The payload of the sleigh adds another interesting element. Assuming that each child gets nothing more than a medium-sized Lego set (two pounds), the sleigh must carry over 500 thousand tons, not counting Santa himself. On land, a conventional reindeer can pull no more than 300 pounds. In air, even granting that the "flying" reindeer could pull ten times the normal amount, the job can't be done with a mere eight or nine of them—Santa would need 360,000 of them. This increases the payload, not counting the weight of the sleigh, another 54,000 tons, or roughly seven times the weight of the Queen Elizabeth (the ship, not the monarch).

Six hundred thousand tons traveling at 650 miles per second creates enormous air resistance—this would heat up the reindeer in the same fashion as a spacecraft re-entering the earth's atmosphere. The lead pair of reindeer would absorb 14.3 quintillion joules of energy per second each. In short, they would burst into flames almost instantaneously, exposing the reindeer behind them and creating deafening sonic booms in their wake. The entire reindeer team would be vaporized within 4.26 thousandths of a second, or right about the time Santa reached the fifth house on his trip.

Not that it matters, however, since Santa, as a result of accelerating from a dead stop to 650 miles per second in .001 seconds, would be subjected to centrifugal forces of 17,500 g's. A 250-pound Santa (which seems ludicrously slim) would be pinned to the back of the sleigh by 4,315,015 pounds of force, instantly crushing his bones and organs and reducing him to a quivering blob of pink goo.

Considering all this, it's amazing that some children (and even a few adults) have no problem believing in Santa. By comparison, the story of the little baby in the manger is relatively easy

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Santa's Trip *continued from page 2*

to believe. The life of Jesus Christ is a fact, recorded not only by biblical writers but by secular historians as well. Some historians declare that there is more evidence for the birth, death, and resurrection of Christ than there is evidence that Julius Caesar ever lived at all.

Even in the face of the written testimony of eyewitnesses, many people refuse to believe in Jesus. They consider him nothing more than a myth. But for those willing to believe with child-like faith, Jesus promises an inheritance of the Kingdom of God. (Mark 10:15)

Join us during Advent as we celebrate, "Holy Moments"

Pastor Greg

Holy Moments *continued from page 1*

way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her." —Luke 10:38-42 (NIV)

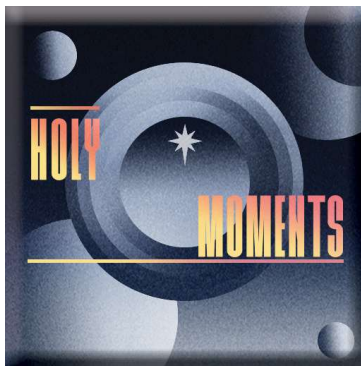
Isn't this a perfect story showing us the importance of being totally present in the moment? How often are we distracted, like Martha? When we are distracted, we are not being in the present moment. We take our eyes off of what is most important in life—our relationship with the Lord. Mary, taking time to just be in Jesus' presence and listening to Him, had her priorities in order. She was totally present, not being distracted, and aware of the most important thing in life.

One special holy moment I experienced this week was the result of God's orchestration of unusual circumstances. Everything about it was just so God and holy to me. I adjusted my work schedule a bit this week and needed to drop something off at the church I grew up at for a friend. The church was open, so I took the opportunity to go spend a few minutes with the Lord. It was a surprise to hear and see someone playing beautiful music on the pipe organ. I sat there, reminiscing about special encounters I experienced at the church while growing up. I was in awe of the beauty of the church, especially since it was renovated a few years ago. All of the décor is as I remembered it from my childhood. Listening to the music, so loud and powerful, brought tears to my eyes as I sat in God's presence. When the musician started playing "Amazing Grace," I couldn't help but think of how far I've come in my spiritual walk through all these years. It was definitely a holy moment with God's presence, God working in my heart, and taking time to just be, though I was supposed to be somewhere else. I stayed present for about thirty-five minutes, just savoring the beauty of the moment.

God graced me with another holy moment as I was driving to my next destination, assisting someone with paperwork. On the other side of the highway, there was one of the CVS trucks with the big red heart on its cab. I was reminded of God's great love for me and to share that with others as I offered a prayer of gratitude to Him. A few minutes later, I passed a different kind of CVS truck pulling another one. As I looked in my rear view mirror, that truck had a red heart too! My heart was filled with joy at the double blessing and reminder.

**BE BLESSED SEEING THE ORDINARY MOMENTS
TURN INTO HOLY MOMENTS!**

TAKEN FROM "HOPE TO INSPIRE YOU" – CHRISTINE FISHER



HOLY MOMENTS

The concept of "Holy Moments," popularized by author and speaker Matthew Kelly, offers a simple yet transformative idea: every individual possesses the spiritual capacity to collaborate with God in their daily life, making ordinary moments extraordinary. This philosophy posits that our lives are not defined by grand, sweeping gestures of holiness, but by a continuous series of conscious choices to open ourselves to God's presence and guidance in everyday situations. Kelly argues that some moments are holy, some are unholy, and we have the power to decide the nature of any given moment through our actions and intentions.

A holy moment is defined as "a single moment in which you open yourself to God. You make yourself available to Him... you simply do what you prayerfully believe God is calling you to do in that moment". This is not about achieving some unattainable state of perfection, but about making intentional choices that align with one's higher self and a divine purpose. The potential for such moments exists everywhere, in every interaction and decision, highlighting that holiness is accessible and practical for everyone.

The Essence and Impact

The essence of a holy moment lies in setting aside personal preferences and self-interest to act with love, kindness, and generosity. This simple shift in focus, from "What do I want?" to "What does God want from me in this moment?", can lead to profound changes in personal well-being and relationships. By cultivating an awareness of these opportunities, individuals can experience:

- **Personal Transformation:** Holy moments foster introspection, self-awareness, and emotional healing, helping individuals discover their true potential and align with their values.
- **Meaningful Relationships:** These moments strengthen bonds, encourage empathy, and create lasting memories by bringing a sacred quality to interpersonal connections.
- **Societal Change:** The ripple effect of one person creating holy moments can inspire others, promoting kindness and a more compassionate world.

The power of a single holy moment, Kelly suggests,

is immense. It can redirect a life, breathe new life into relationships, and provide a sense of hope and purpose in a world often saturated with distractions and negativity.

Cultivating a Life of Holy Moments

Living a life full of holy moments is about developing daily habits and a faithful focus. It requires intentionality and practice. Key strategies include:

- **Mindfulness and Presence:** Fully engaging with the present moment and giving full attention to the person in front of you helps you notice opportunities for grace.
- **Prayer and Discernment:** Consulting God through prayer before making a decision, especially a difficult one, helps in discerning the right action.
- **Acts of Kindness:** Simple acts like controlling your temper, encouraging someone, overlooking an offense, or cleaning a mess you didn't make can be potent holy moments.
- **Continuous Learning and Reflection:** Reading inspiring books, seeking solitude for reflection, and praying can feed the mind and spirit, enabling one to become a "better version of yourself".

By consistently choosing the "holy" path, one starts to experience life through a new lens, collaborating with God and bringing light to the world. This simple idea, Kelly asserts, is the foundation for a life of extraordinary meaning and divine purpose, demonstrating that holiness is possible for everyone, one moment at a time. The movement, therefore, starts with a personal commitment to embrace this potential and share the wisdom with others, creating a powerful, positive chain reaction that can change the world.



MARTHA'S HEART MINISTRIES

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

SATURDAY
DEC-06-25
10:00 AM
TILL
2:00 PM

"ROYAL QUEENS"
A CELEBRATION
OF BEAUTY

BERNSEN
COMMUNITY LIFE
CENTER
709 S BOSTON AVE
TULSA, OK 74119

STREET SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS PARTY

GOAL: 320 PACKS

Each Street School student is sent home with a bag of groceries for the Winter Break. Our part of the bag is Microwavable Mac & Cheese. Let's warm their hearts and tummies!

MICROWAVE MAC & CHEESE

BY SUNDAY DECEMBER 14TH

a joint project of Will Rogers Church & WR Preschool

HEALING SERVICE

Evangelist  Adam Smith

December 7th, 2025
10:15 AM
WR-Church 1138 S. Yale Ave

Come and experience the power of God's Love and Healing!
 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" Hebrews 13:8

4 Ways to Give

by mail
 1138 S. Yale Ave
 Tulsa, Ok 74112

online
 willrogersumc.org

by text
 844-277-6101

ONLINE GIVING

The church office will be closed
 for the holidays:

CHRISTMAS
 December 22nd - December 26th

NEW YEARS
 December 30th - January 2nd

2026
HAPPY NEW YEAR



Scan to give!





Will Rogers Church

LIFELINE

1138 South Yale Tulsa, OK 74112-5395 (918) 834-0891

Return Service Requested

December 2025

WILL ROGERS CHURCH

WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAY @ 10:15AM

Everyone's Welcome Nobody's Perfect Anything's Possible

SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 9:00AM

Church website: <http://www.wrctulsa.org>

[facebook.com/Will Rogers Church Tulsa OK](https://www.facebook.com/WillRogersChurchTulsaOK)

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 4:00pm

Service times:

10:15am - Blended Worship

Livestreaming

Find link on Facebook or www.wrctulsa.org

9:00am - Sunday School

THIS
IS WHAT *Still*
WE DO



Giving2026