

SPECIAL

It had been a rough day for the old man. The pain in his knees had been increasing its intensity until walking was difficult and standing for very long was nearly impossible. He wanted nothing more than to stay at home with his feet up and have the pain in his knees numbed by burying them in ice packs. It was a good plan but it was not to be.

The old man's friend was to be honored with a party on this day. The pain that the old man felt was not as strong as his need to support his friend on this special day.

"Are we going tonight?" asked his beautiful wife. "Yes." replied the old man. "Are you up to it?" she asked. "I'll be fine," he said. She knew how badly he was hurting when he grabbed his cane. He had bought the cane several months ago but only used it on special days when the pain was exceptionally intense. This worried the beautiful wife but she said nothing.

When they arrived at the party, they greeted their friends with the usual pleasantries befitting of such an occasion. Eventually, the old man made his way to a comfortable chair in the corner of the festivities. The beautiful wife sat by his side. Friends would come and visit with the couple and a few of times the old man would pick up his cane and mingle through the crowd. His trips were short in distance and in duration. The beautiful wife was enjoying the company of her friends. Her visiting was rewarding to her and pleasing to the old man. He enjoyed seeing her having a good time with her friends. It made him smile.

Eventually, it was time for the evening meal. It was an inviting buffet of salads and Latin delicacies. The old man noticed that his beautiful wife was engaged in conversation with one of her best friends. He decided to prepare a plate of food for his wife as well as one for himself. He put aside his cane and hobbled to the buffet line. He prepared each of the plates with the foods that pleased each of their particular tastes. When he finished, he delivered the food to his unsuspecting, beautiful bride. The sparkle in her eyes and the smile on her face made the pain in his knees disappear.

Why was it important to the old man to prepare a plate for the beautiful wife? That sparkle in her eye and that smile on her face. It

made her feel special. She is special! He did it because he loves her and it makes her happy. She needs to be shown that she is special.

We need to take the time to show people that they are special. What about our friends? When was the last time we did something for a friend, not because someone asked us to do so, but just because we love them and we want to make them happy. We want them to feel special.

What about someone we don't know? When was the last time we did something for someone we don't know, not because someone asked us to do so, but just because we love them and we want to make them happy. We want them to feel special.

When we get to the point that we start doing things for others just because we love them and we want to make them happy, then we truly begin to understand the nature of Jesus.

Jesus gave his life for us because he loves us. He gave us a pattern for our lives so that we could live happy and fulfilled lives. He makes us feel special because everything that he did was because he loved us. He is special!

Jeff