

Dominos are pretty cool.

I remember watching one particular episode of *Mr. Rogers's Neighborhood* when I was younger. The entire floor of the living room was covered in dominos—large dominos, small dominos, dominos of every fathomable color—and each one was placed in a specific place for a certain purpose. These rows upon rows of dominoes were set up in an intricate pattern that might not have made sense to someone who just looked at them once, but to their designer, each domino was placed in exactly the right spot.

The remarkable display that resulted from knocking over one domino astonished me. Fireworks seemed to erupt across the floor as domino after domino fell over in a breathtaking display that had taken roughly twelve hours to carefully set up. Simply put, it was incredible—and it all started with someone knocking over just one domino.

The dominos got me thinking about chain reactions or what is sometimes referred to as the domino effect. Each person we meet—whether it's the cashier in the department store who hands us our change, the lady across the street with a few too many cats, or the little girl swinging in a nearby park on a sunny day—is like one of those dominos.

We may not know exactly where they fit in that complex pattern, and we may not know where we ourselves fit, but every person whose life we impact in a positive, significant way, will inevitably impact someone else's life. Just like the domino effect.

If I had to choose between making a big difference in one person's life or a small difference in the world at large, I would choose to make a large difference in one person's life because like the domino effect the change wouldn't end there. Instead it would grow; spreading from one person to the next just like all those dominos collapsing

one after the other. And the consequences of such a change could possibly result in something incredibly unexpected.

Anna B. Warner, the writer of the song *Jesus Loves Me* couldn't possibly predict that the simple song she wrote would be heard by people all over the world. She couldn't possibly have known that just a few lines would impact so many lives. No one could predict such a thing.

Sometimes we think that changing the world is some huge task that only certain people can accomplish, but the truth is we could literally change the world without even knowing it. The same way the designer of the complex pattern of dominos placed each one in exactly the right place, God places all the people in our lives in place for a reason. None of us really knows what the result of one change could do. God has a knack for making the smallest things life changing and using us to do it in ways we'd least expect it. Simply put, changing one life can end up changing the world.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to go find that old set of dominos I'm sure is collecting dust in my basement.