



## **90% of life is simply showing up - Woody Allen**

During this season where God became man, we may take some time to consider what it means to simply show up. I remember one day while a Peace Corps volunteer in Malaysia, I had the parent of one of my students rush up to me to say, “terema kasih,” or “thank you.” I had no idea what she was thanking me for. It turns out she was overwhelmed and grateful that someone from the United States would travel all that way to teach her daughter. It wasn’t my teaching she was thanking me for; she was simply amazed that someone would leave their life in the States and travel to the other side of the world to be with them.

As a priest, I have the privilege of simply showing up in your lives, and having that make a difference. Rarely am I quoted for my words of wisdom from these visits 😊. You are more apt to state how much it meant for me to just be there. I think sometimes we forget how important we are to other people. Showing up means we thought of them and we took the time to be with them. When we show up for another, we are letting them know that they matter to us.

God created us to show up. God gave us a form that can be seen and touched, a form to be shared. Christmas reminds us that whether we are present or not matters. It makes a big difference if you join us on Sunday mornings. It really does. It matters if you are there to another in need, even, and maybe especially, when you think you have nothing to offer, nothing to say.

For God so loves us that he showed up that Christmas morn. It mattered that he took on human form. Even as an infant, unable to speak, totally dependent on his parents, God’s presence changed the world. God showed us how much it matters that we participate in our world, that when attendance is taken, we boldly answer, “I am here!” 90% of life is simply showing up. Let’s live life to the fullest.