



## Encouraging Words with DARLENE SALA

### Who's Going to Remember?

Since I get a bit up tight when guests are coming for dinner, my friend sent me the following advice: When you start to have stressful feelings, just say one of the following things:

- “Oh, who cares anyway!” No one ever notices the things that bother you, she says, such as table napkins that don't match or fish that is overdone. They're too worried about themselves to notice.
- #2--“Big deal!” If someone comes over and notices that your bedroom is messy and there is toothpaste on the mirror, just tell them that someone must have used your room.
- #3--“Just forget it!” This one is appropriate when everything was going smoothly for your summer dinner party—until the doorbell rang and you noticed rain is drizzling all over your beautifully set table.
- #4--“In ten years, who's going to remember!” This one is handy when on the day of your board meeting, you have an allergy attack and break out in hives. This routine works better, she adds, than Extra Strength Tylenol.

What is really worth getting concerned about anyway? A child with a fever--yes! Your shoes don't go with your outfit—no! Your husband is losing his job—yes! You overcooked—well, to be honest, you *burned* dinner—no!

Jesus said to His hostess in Bethany, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and upset about many things” (Luke 10:41). You see, relationships are what matter, not things or accomplishments. Whatever the frustrations of life you're dealing with, remember it's people who count with God—and they should with us too.

Sometimes we're like the bride who is so heartbroken that her wedding was not picture-perfect that she forgets she still got the groom! Hey, lighten up. Hug the people you love and just forget the imperfections. Big deal! Who cares anyway? In ten years, who's going to remember?