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# BIRD

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## > *Matthew 6:26* <

Look at the birds of the air: they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?

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I sit early in the mornings, usually writing, at my kitchen table. As the sun begins to come up they begin flying in. There are blue birds, finches of all sorts, sparrows, pigeons, and cardinals. They come and eat the bird food from one of the feeders that hang on my back deck. I love watching them fly around. I'm thankful for their company in those early hours of the morning.

These birds remind me of Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount. He uses the image of birds to teach us about not worrying. Jesus explained to the disciples (and us) that God loves those little birds and loves them so much that He takes care of them. Jesus tells us that if God loves them enough to take care of them and for them to not worry, then how much more does God love us and how much less we should worry. This is easy to read, but can be much more difficult to put into practice at school, home, before a big game, on a date, and so on. But when you're tempted to become anxious, think about the birds that gather on my back porch.

God chooses to provide for those little guys through me. Could God provide and take care of all of by Himself? Sure. But the beauty of the gospel is that God chooses to provide for us, many times, through each other. As people of faith we belong to a community of other believers who are called from the beginning to be about the business of taking care of others. Do the birds go hungry? Not the ones in my neighborhood. How about in yours?

### **Go and Do**

Being a part of God's work of taking care of others is a holy and life giving act that, as Christ-followers, we are called to again and again in Scripture. Take a moment and picture those people, things, and places in your world that need taken care of or looked out for. Then as you are envisioning them, ask God to help you know how you can make the lives of those people and things better. Write these down and begin your days by praying for the items on your list each morning.

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