

Unit B

Birds

Truths discussed during this unit:

- “ye are of more value than many sparrows”
- Feathers protect birds “He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust”
- Birds build nests in preparation what has Jesus prepared for us?
- Baby birds learn from their parents taking time to sit at the feet of Jesus

Enjoy your time in the Word!

Lesson 1

Since we are studying birds this week, our spiritual lessons will also be about birds!

Spending time in scripture

Luke 12:6-7

6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God?

7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

Discussion

Did you understand what those verses were saying? Do you know what a sparrow is? Sparrows are small birds. Those verses are saying that even when someone sells five birds for a small amount of money, God knows what happens to each bird. The Lord knows how many hairs are on your head, and on

mine. At the end of the second verse the Lord reassures us that if He is aware of and caring for every small bird in the sky, then He definitely knows us and is aware of what is going on with us too.

Do you know that you are important to God? He said that you are “of more value than many sparrows.” He values you and loves you. Why do you think we are so important to the Lord?

If Jesus knows when a few little birds are sold, and knows how many hairs are on your head, then He knows what is going on with us in our lives. He knows our hearts and our hurts and our dreams and hopes and struggles and everything!

How does it make you feel to know that the Lord is aware of every little thing going on in your life?

If we know deeply that we are important to God, how might that change the way we pray? Could it help us have stronger faith?

When we see how important we are to the Lord, does that change how much we love and value the other people around us? Discuss the value of each and every person.

Affirming truth

Below is a list of affirmations. You are encouraged to say them together every day. Discuss how this makes you both feel as you speak these truths out loud and accept them in your hearts.

- I am loved by God
- I am important
- The Lord cares for me and knows my needs
- My thoughts and feelings are important to Him
- I matter
- God is always with me and watching over me
- Jesus Christ loves me and died for me
- I am loved more than I know

Lesson 2

Do you remember what we learned about yesterday? Today we will continue learning about scriptural teachings that go with our bird unit.

Spending time in scripture

Psalm 91:2, 4

2 I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust:...

Discussion

We are going to go through these verses slowly so we can get all of the good things out of them. First, this scripture says, "I will say of the Lord, he is my refuge and my fortress." Do you know what a refuge is? It is a safe place. The Lord is our safe place. Do you know what a fortress is? A fortress is a place that is so strong that nothing bad can get inside or knock it down.

Kind of like a castle – it is a fortress, or a strong place to keep safe. So this first verse is teaching us that the Lord is a safe place for us, and that He is strong and will protect us, so we can always trust Him.

The second verse says, "He shall cover thee with his feathers." What did we learn today about what feathers do for birds?

So what do you think it means that the Lord will cover us with His feathers?

Explore the ideas that just like feathers protect birds' skin, help them in their daily tasks, and keep them warm, that if the Lord covers us with His feathers He will protect us, help us in our daily work, and provide warmth and love.

One of the main uses of feathers is to help birds fly. If the Lord covers us with His feathers, He provides what we need to fly – or to become like Him and grow closer to God. We soar up when we repent, try to be better, pray often, and seek to serve like Jesus did. Birds are the only animals that have feathers, and Jesus Christ is the only one that provides us a way home to God. He is the way, and the only one that can provide feathers for us that will lead to salvation.

Feel free to discuss more of how Christ lifts us and gives us wings to fly.

Lesson 3

Today we learned all about birds building nests. Why do they build nests again? Yes they are preparing a place for their babies.

Now we are going to learn about what Jesus is preparing for you.

Spending time in scripture

John 14:2-4

2 In my Father's house are many mansions, if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

4 And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.

Discussion

In these verses, Jesus is speaking. Did you hear Him say "I go to prepare a place for you?" Just like two birds that carefully build a nest

for their chicks, Jesus is preparing a place for us to live with Him forever. *Discuss what this place He is preparing for us will be like. There will be no "death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain..." (Revelation 21:4) Bear testimony of the joy and happiness we will have there with Jesus Christ.*

Jesus is and always has been preparing good things for us.

What else has Jesus prepared for us?

- He has prepared a way for us to be saved from sin
- He has prepared a way for us to be saved from death and find eternal life
- He prepared an example for us to follow by providing a perfect example with His life
- He prepared scripture for us to have and learn from
- He prepared and sent the Holy Spirit so that we will have help and guidance in this life

List and discuss anything else that the Lord has prepared for your family – especially personal blessings like your home, current working situation,

church family, special friends, new baby, etc. Testify of the ways you have seen the Lord preparing specific situations and blessings for you in your life.

How does it make you feel to know and realize that the Lord is always going before us and preparing everything we need?

Jesus Christ is faithful and true and good. Just like a bird that builds and prepares a nest for its chicks, He is always going before us, preparing everything we need. He is preparing us for our tasks in this life, and He is preparing something glorious for us in the next life. We can always trust in His plan and timing and His personal ministry to us.

Lesson 4

Today we talked about birds hatching from eggs, and saw a little of how they learn from their parents. Now we are going to learn how we should learn from Jesus.

Spending time in scripture

Luke 10:38-42

38 Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house.

39 And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.

40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.

41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:

42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part,

which shall not be taken away from her.

Discussion

Let's talk a little bit about what we read. Jesus came to the home of two women named Mary and Martha. While Jesus was there, Martha was very busy trying to serve Him and get everything ready for His visit. Her sister Mary was not helping, but sat at Jesus' feet listening to Him. Martha, the woman who was working said, "Jesus, don't you care that my sister isn't helping and I have to do everything alone? Won't you tell her to come help me?"

Do you know what Jesus said? He said, "Martha, I know you worry about so many things. But Mary has chosen to do something even more important than working right now, and it will bless her forever."

Now, this story isn't teaching us that we don't need to help around the house! I am sure that Mary often helped Martha. But what this story is teaching us is that it is important to take time to sit at the feet of Jesus. There are so many things that will always need to be done, or things that can take up our time. But if we spend our whole life worrying about the things we think

we need to do, and never take any time to sit at the feet of Jesus and learn from Him, we will miss out on the most important part of our life!

What are some of the things that take up a lot of your time? (*Discuss with your child how they spend their time.*)

Do you think there are some things that you could give up or spend a little less time on so that you could spend more time at the feet of Jesus, learning?

Striving to be better, together

Take time here to brainstorm and share together how you could both make more time for reading in the scriptures, praying, or worshipping through song. Could you spend less time on your phone? Make your to-do list a little smaller? Set a good example by honestly evaluating how you spend your time, and how you will improve and try harder. It's important to sacrifice for the Lord! And our children will learn by watching us show them the way.

Today in school we learned about eggs, and baby birds hatching and growing. Baby birds learn everything they need to know from their parents. They learn to fly and

find food and survive. There is so much we need to learn from the Lord Jesus Christ! As we take time to sit at the feet of Jesus and learn from Him, and hear His voice through scripture and deepen our relationship with Him through prayer, He will teach us. As we do this we will grow and learn all we need to know to return to live with Him in happiness and glory.