

## LOOK AT THE BIRDS OF THE AIR 25

TEXT: Matt. 6:26

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. Jesus pointed His disciples to the birds of the air for a lesson about anxiety.
- B. He assures them that there is no need to be anxious, the birds of the air d/n worry because they know that God feeds and cares for them.
- C. If He does that, He will certainly do likewise for us.
- D. Have you ever seen ducks and geese flying south during the fall and North during the spring?
- E. They look so graceful in flight.
- F. There are some valuable lessons to be gained when we think of these flights, especially the flight of a flock of Geese.

### BODY:

#### I. THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS.

A. Scientists have discovered that by flying in a flock the geese can fly 71% farther than if they flew alone.

B. We being many are one.

1. Rom. 12:5.

2. Gal. 3:28 **There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**

C. Strive together for the faith.

1. Phil. 1:27.

2. Mk. 2:1-5 What if they were not united.

D. Examples of the early church being together:

1. Acts 1:14.

2. Acts 2:1.

3. Acts 2:46.
4. Acts 5:12, etc.

E. Heb. 10:25 assembling together.

1. God knows we can accomplish more when we work together, pray, sing and fellowship together.
2. There is strength in numbers.

## II. GEESE HELP EACH OTHER.

A. The familiar V created by the flock causes a path of air that gives each successive goose a lift.

B. They also exchange places to let the lead goose rest.

C. We are to help each other.

1. Gal. 6:1-2.
2. Rom. 15:1 **We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.**

3. Support the weak- Acts 20:35.

4. Comfort the feeble- 1 Thess. 5:14b **comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak.**

D. Like the good Samaritan- Lk. 10:33-35.

E. We always need to be ready to help each other.

F. We also need to assume the responsibility of leadership from time to time.

## III. THE HONKING.

A. The honking is for two reasons:

1. Orientation.
2. Encouragement.

B. We all need encouragement.

C. 1 Thess. 5:11 (RSV) "**Therefore encourage one another and build one another up..**"

D. Jesus told them to be of good cheer.

1. Matt. 14:27. "**Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.**"

2. Acts 23:11.

E. John was encouraged by some walking in truth- 2 Jn. 4.

F. Encouragement strengthens us:

1. Peter told to- Lk. 22:32.

2. Paul did this- Acts 18:23.

G. What kind of honking do you do?

#### IV. DROP-OUTS.

A. When one goose has to drop out of the ranks because it is sick or injured, several others will drop out and stay with the hurt or sick goose until it is back to health.

**B. Gal. 6:1. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.**

C. 2 Cor. 2:6-8 Man who was with drawn from.

D. People refreshed and comforted Paul:

1. 1 Cor. 16:17-18.

2. Col. 4:11 **they have proved to be a comfort to me..**

E. Paul commands- Phil. 2:1-2.

F. Notice these:

1. 2 Cor. 1:3-4.

2. 1 Thess. 4:18. **Therefore comfort one another with these words.**

3. 1 Thess. 5:11 **Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing..**

G. With a spirit of concern and gentleness God expects us to help restore the spiritual dropout.

#### CONCLUSION:

A. We can learn spiritual lessons from almost everything around us.

B. Simple yet powerful lessons from a flock of geese.

C. "Look to the birds of the air. . ."

D. They trust in God Do You?

From an article by Bill Thrasher.