



God Cares For Us: Print out the attached "Birds You Might See in WA".

**Scripture: Matthew 10:31, Genesis 21:8-21**

What's a hobby? An activity you enjoy and often do in your free time.

What are some hobbies that people enjoy? Reading, knitting, and photography are popular hobbies. Some people like to build things like model cars or airplanes. Others may enjoy outdoor activities like fishing or hiking.

Do you have a hobby?

Do you think God has a hobby?

OK, I know the Bible doesn't tell us that God has a hobby, but if He did, do you know what I think it might be? Bird watching! If I use my imagination, I can see God sitting in heaven with a pair of binoculars. Perhaps He has a book with pictures of all the beautiful birds that He has created and He is trying to see how many of them he can find with His binoculars. If I really stretch my imagination, I can even hear Him saying, "There's a Bluebird, and a Cardinal. Oh look, there's an Eagle, a Meadowlark, and a Sparrow."

A Sparrow? Of course He would see a Sparrow, there are millions of them. You've seen them -- common, ordinary, brown Sparrows -- but God must have loved them, because He made so many of them.

Show bird identification page. Try to identify them

One day Jesus was teaching His disciples that they should not be afraid. Jesus said, "Don't be afraid when you are scared. Two sparrows are sold for a penny, but not a single sparrow falls to the ground without your Father knowing it. So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows."

A sparrow seems like a common bird. It has been said, "God must have loved the common people, because He made so many of them."

God doesn't see any person as common or ordinary.

\* People are made in the image of God. God love us and all people in such uncommon and extraordinary ways!

\* He cares for us, forgives when we ask Him to, and gave us each unique gifts to share with others.

\* He gave us a beautiful world to enjoy and care for.

\* Jesus died for us and the Holy Spirit guides us.

\* There's a community of people, the Church, where people care for each other and for others all over the city, state, country and world.

Still, sometimes things happen to make us worry or to be scared.

The Bible says, "Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares about you." We are more precious to Him than a whole flock of sparrows -- and we know how much He loves the sparrow.

Dear God, we know that we are precious in Your sight. Thank You for loving us with such an uncommon and extraordinary love. In Jesus' name, amen.