



BIRDS OF THE AIR

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REMEMBER

Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Didn't God choose the poor in this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? —James 2:5

READ

Matthew 3:13-17

When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit descended on Him in the form of a dove. Although the Bible doesn't explain exactly why the form of a dove was chosen, we do know that people offered doves to God at the temple. Even Mary and Joseph, Jesus' earthly parents, brought an offering of turtledoves (Luke 2:24). Still, no matter how many doves people brought, the offering would never be enough to cover their sins.

Jesus, who is God's Son, came to earth as the ultimate offering. He lived a perfect life, died on the cross for our sins, and rose again to show that He is strong enough to overcome evil and death. Jesus' sacrifice was the perfect one! All who confess their sins and trust in Jesus are forgiven of their sins and will live forever with God.

THINK

1. In this make-believe story, the birds compare themselves to one another, and the dove wonders if God will even notice him when there are so many other wonderful birds. Have you ever compared yourself to someone else? How did you feel about yourself when doing so? What does God say about comparison?
2. When God visits the birds, they show off their looks and abilities. They are focusing on themselves instead of their Creator. When we worship God, where should our focus be?
3. The peacock thinks that he should be God's symbol, but God has different plans for him. Have you ever wanted something that you didn't get? How might something different still be good for you?
4. Even though the dove isn't the strongest, smartest, or most beautiful bird, God still chooses him. While this is a make-believe story, it shows God chooses the weak and gives us gifts we don't deserve, which is called grace. How have you seen God's grace in your life?