

## Does Anyone Really Care

Matthew 10:29-31 (NIV)

*29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care. 30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.*

As I look out the window, I can't help but think of many in our world, community, family, households who are wondering "who cares!" How is it that we deal with a current reality of no job, no school, no travel, no income, no answers, no help, and little to no good news! Does anyone really care?

Then a red flash goes by - it's a cardinal coming to one of the feeders my wife put out on our deck. My attention is drawn to the cardinal, woodpecker, finches and others who have gathered around the seeds and suet from someone who cares! (Jen, not me - they make a mess!) I watch as they enjoy a simple treat in the midst of a grey Michigan spring. They know somebody cares!

In the rather gray days of shelter at home, economic mess, virus explosion, and more; we must be reminded that God cares, God's a "bird watcher." God cares, God's a "you and me watcher." Why does God watch birds / you and me?

### 1. God Enjoys His creation

From the very beginning in Genesis, God looked at creation, smiled and called it "Good!" Through history with all of our wanderings, God has continued to enjoy His creation.

Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV)

*17 The Lord your God is with you,  
the Mighty Warrior who saves.  
He will take great delight in you;  
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,  
but will rejoice over you with singing."*

God delights in watching over us and rejoices in a relationship with us. God smiles as many different "birds" come to be fed and realize that Someone does care!

### 2. God Wants to Engage Us

A few years ago, there was a PBS special about a man who raised a gaggle of geese to the point of flying an ultralight with them in their migration. He engaged them!

God wants to connect with us! God has continually tried to engage us and foster a relationship with a loving God. Time after time God has entered human history to try and get our attention. Time after time God has entered human history to show He cares, ultimately, with Christ entering our world to bring HOPE in all things.

**Feeling Frazzled** - Matthew 11:28-30 *“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”*

**Feeling Afraid** - John 14:27 *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

**Feeling Sorrow** - John 11:35 *Jesus wept.*

**Feeling like Nobody Cares** - Hebrews 4:14-16 *Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.*

God continually fills the feeder in hopes that we will fly to it and engage God. God cares!

### 3. God Wants to Encourage Us

Sometimes life throws us a curveball. Well, I might say that life has thrown us a knuckleball! Our “normal” life has given way to movement we have never seen before. Dips, curves and drops that we can’t even follow or predict. God wants us to still get in the batter's box and swing!

Philippians 4:13 *I can do all this through him who gives me strength.* God wants us to know “you can do it!” We can overcome the challenge, we can do greater things, we can defeat giants, walk on water, forgive and be forgiven, we can step in the box and hit that knuckleball over the centerfield wall!!

Philippians 1:6 *being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.* It’s cold, gray, and windy and the berries aren’t out yet. Go to the feeder and be encouraged to press on in life.

### 4. God Wants to Spread the Good News

Somebody does care!

I have to admit, I moved the bird feeders! The problem (as I see it) was the overflow of seed that attracted the ground squirrels that built homes in my new rock walls! Wait, isn't that the beauty of it? So many benefit from the feeder? If we realize, believe, and embody the LOVE of God (somebody cares) then others are fed through God's love and power at work in and through us. The squirrels, mice, crows, chipmunks and more feed! The lost, homeless, weary, hurting, hopeless, and more feed!

Come to the feeder, make a mess and share the love of God with others because you know SOMEONE does CARE!