

The Miracle of the Birds

Back in 2016 I went through a very traumatic experience involving a family member that left me reeling. Not only was I dealing with the trauma of the actual event but also the fallout from the event - 2 family members had turned against me. Plus I was still dealing with my divorce and the death of my cat. So basically I was grieving the loss of all the people that I had loved the most in the world. And I was not coping well at all. Not only was I losing lots of weight, but I could not go to sleep at night. All night long my mind would replay the traumatic event over and over again. I knew I needed help to get through the crisis, so I reached out to a counselor at a Christian women's crisis center.

At the height of the crisis in late December 2016, I was standing at my kitchen sink thinking back over my last session. My counselor had suggested 2 things - that I start journaling and that I also read the book of John. I was completely resistant to both of her ideas. Journaling? What on earth would I write about? And then her suggestion to read the book of John, well I had already done that and I really struggled with it. So I was standing there thinking I really don't want to read John again, when suddenly I heard the word "MATTHEW" in my ear. I was like, what was that? Could that be God? Then I thought that couldn't possibly be God, but my own imagination. Then a few minutes later, a friend of mine, sent me a text of scripture. In the 4 years I had known her that was the only time she had ever done that. And guess where it was from - yes, the book of Matthew. So out of 66 books in the bible she just happened to send me an excerpt from there! So that is how the Lord led me to start reading the book of Matthew.

At the end of December I received an email from a family member that shocked me to my core. She told me that she wanted nothing more to do with me and falsely accused me of doing all sorts of things which I had not done. She told me to leave her alone and that we were done. I was devastated by that letter and cried all night and the next day. I felt that I had lost this person forever and it was the most gut-wrenching pain I had ever felt in my life.

Finally I got on my hands and knees and prayed to God, "Lord, do you see what is happening? I've lost everyone and everything that I have ever loved. Do you even care? Are you really there? Do I even matter to you? Please Lord just give me a sign that you are real and that you're still there."

A few days later on January 1, 2017, I was in my home office staring at my computer screen. Out of the corner of my eye, I kept seeing movement. So I got up and walked to my front window and I saw the most amazing thing I have ever seen in my life. There were birds everywhere on my front lawn, so many of them that I could not see the grass, just birds. They were in all the trees and bushes and lawn but there was not one bird in any of the adjacent yards, just mine! At that moment I knew that this was the sign from God that I had prayed for. As I was marveling at the sight, they

suddenly all flew away, maybe a minute later. I was so overcome with emotion that I burst into tears and ran into my bedroom and knelt on my prayer bench and starting thanking and praising God. I felt so much gratitude to Jesus. I knew at that moment that He was real and He did care! Afterwards, I went back to the front window. And He sent the birds back twice more! In awe and wonder, I decided to record it because it was just the most amazing and precious thing I had ever seen. I had lived in that house for 15 years and never before had the birds ever behaved like that. That was the day I started journaling and the miracle of the birds was my very first entry.

Scripture

John 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.