

“BRACE YOURSELF LIKE A MAN...”

FEED THE ANIMALS

JOB 38:39-41 NLT “Can you stalk prey for a lioness and satisfy the young lions’ appetites ⁽⁴⁰⁾ as they lie in their dens or crouch in the thicket? ⁽⁴¹⁾ Who provides food for the ravens when their young cry out to God and wander about in hunger?”

PSALMS 50:10-11 NLT “For all the animals of the forest are mine, and I own the cattle on a thousand hills. ⁽¹¹⁾ I know every bird on the mountains, and all the animals of the field are mine.”

CARE FOR THE ANIMALS

JOB 39:1-4 NLT “Do you know when the wild goats give birth? Have you watched as deer are born in the wild? ⁽²⁾ Do you know how many months they carry their young? Are you aware of the time of their delivery? ⁽³⁾ They crouch down to give birth to their young and deliver their offspring. ⁽⁴⁾ Their young grow up in the open fields, then leave home and never return.

JOB 38:26-30 NLT “Is it your wisdom that makes the hawk soar and spread its wings toward the south? ⁽²⁷⁾ Is it at your command that the eagle rises to the heights to make its nest? ⁽²⁸⁾ It lives on the cliffs, making its home on a distant, rocky crag. ⁽²⁹⁾ From there it hunts its prey, keeping watch with piercing eyes. ⁽³⁰⁾ Its young gulp down blood. Where there’s a carcass, there you’ll find it.”

GOD IS OUR PROVISION

PSALMS 36:6-9 NLT Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the ocean depths. You care for people and animals alike, O LORD. ⁽⁷⁾ How precious is your unfailing love, O God! All humanity finds shelter in the shadow of your wings. ⁽⁸⁾ You feed them from the abundance of your own house, letting them drink from your river of delights. ⁽⁹⁾ For you are the fountain of life, the light by which we see.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:8,10-11 NLT And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. ⁽¹⁰⁾ For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. ⁽¹¹⁾ Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.

LUKE 12:28-31 NLT “And if God cares so wonderfully for flowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? ⁽²⁹⁾ And don’t be concerned about what to eat and what to drink. Don’t worry about such things. ⁽³⁰⁾ These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers all over the world, but your Father already knows your needs. ⁽³¹⁾ Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need.”

GROUP DISCUSSION:

1. How does the mix of, God provide vs. I provide, work?
2. What should our response to God’s provision be?
3. How does God’s provision impact your generosity?

THIS WEEK’S CHALLENGE:

1. Pray this week for the Spirit to help you honor God with your resources.
2. Memorize: LUKE 12:31 NLT
“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need.”

