

His Eye is on the Sparrow ¹

Sandra A Smith

The Sparrow landed on the ledge just outside my office window. The view was perfect as I watched this little ledge-dweller go about its business of the day. I was reminded of God's care for the "fowls of the air" and my own experience as a "sparrow."

Some time ago I was between jobs. With a rewarding job of almost seven years behind me and a new, exciting one on the horizon, I eagerly waited to start my new career. There was one hitch; I would not be able to start right away. Circumstances beyond my control did not allow me to start in the new position for four months.

Finances diminished as the bills grew. More so, worrying (a slow killer of the human spirit) festered and grew in my soul. Doubt was slowly replacing the faith that I was given to trust that God would take care of my needs. I constantly was discouraged and depressed. I didn't sleep well.

As I watched the little bird and reflected on my "dark" hour, I realized these trying times made up one of the greatest experiences in my life. I was the steward of faith the size of a mustard seed. God had entrusted to me a measure of faith that I was to develop. No matter what I was going through, God still expected me to trust Him and to carry out the duties that He had called me to do.

One of the responsibilities that I had was that of co-director of the hospitality ministry at my church. This job involved buying supplies to be used by all of the teams that offered the weekly lunch. It also involved buying food to contribute to the once-a-month churchwide potluck. With the start date for my new job some time yet in the future and with limited finances, I had to decide what to do. I could give up the church position or trust and obey. I decided on the latter.

Although worried at times about how much money I had left in the bank, I used my scarce resources to buy what was needed. I was faithful in carrying out well the duties that the Lord had asked me to do. I wanted to give Him my very best, even when it came down to simple things like having enough utensils and food for our church family and guests.

The wonderful thing about trusting in God was the assurance that He would take care of me. My faith, although tiny, was the only thing that I had to cling to. Even though I wavered at times, I did not give in to the temptation of letting go of His caring hand. During my time of financial crisis I never went hungry or homeless. In my darkest hours God constantly reminded me through family and friends that He loved and cared about my well-being and survival.

Four months later I was blessed to start my new job, and shortly thereafter I happily deposited my first paycheck in the bank. Throughout this trying experience I realized that God's eye *is* "on the sparrow" and that He *is* faithful.

**Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will ... Do not fear therefore; you are more value than many sparrows.
Matthew 10:29-31 NKJV**

¹ Ronald Alan Knott, Over and Over Again 2, 2000, pages 115-116