

Little Bird

I was on my way to speak at a church on a beautiful Sunday morning. The bright sun which warmed my window would soon burn the frost from the side of the road. I wasn't the only one enjoying the morning. Small birds were gathering in flocks... wheeling and darting across the sky. I watched in amazement as they moved as though they were one, guided by some mysterious mix of radar and intuition.

As I cleared the crest of the hill, I saw them on the road ahead. A small flock of birds had settled there on the dark pavement. In response, I took my foot off the accelerator, slowing the car to accommodate their need for escape. Predictably, the whole flock rose up as one and broke to the right with room to spare. That is... all except one. One little bird was slow on the takeoff. Unfortunately, he was also lined up with my left front fender. Following his instinct, he flew to the right. There wasn't time. And then inexplicably, he broke to the left, clearing my fender by a matter of inches.

As I breathed a sigh of relief, I thought, "Little bird... you just made the best decision of your little bird life. You fought your instinct to follow the crowd and your very existence depended upon that." I also considered how similar circumstances can be in the worlds of birds and men.

The Bible says, "The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death." Proverbs 13:14 NIV Will you follow God's instruction or will you follow the crowd? Choose wisely. It may be the most important decision you will ever make... both in this life and in the life to come.