

# Spring Moment



In April and May Spring begins to make its way into our part of the world. Crocus, daffodils, and tulips as well as the soft green of tree leaves are the first signs that the seasons are changing and that Spring is present. As creation awakens around us we remember how much God loves all of creation including us.

This “Spring moment” has four steps caring conversation, bible reading, activity and ritual.

## 1. **Caring conversation:**

Place an ice cube in a cup, one for each person. It is good if the ice cubes are about the same size. Sit in lawn chairs or on a blanket in your back yard. Set your cup in the sun and watch to see whose cube melts the fastest. As you wait have a conversation using one or more of the following questions:

- a) If you were a bird what kind of bird would you like to be?
- b) What is your favorite thing to do outside? Talk about a quiet thing to do and an active thing to do.
- c) What words make you feel special? What words can you use to help others feel special?

## 2. **Bible reading**

- a) The Bible talks a lot about the beauty of creation. In Genesis we hear two different creation stories; one of them tells us that God is very happy with creation and that it is very good. In the gospel according to John we hear a third story about how creation was imagined to have begun. Jesus often talks about creation in his stories when he is teaching about God and how God wants us to live.

In the Gospel of Matthew we read that God still takes care of creation and we are reminded that God loves us too. You will find these words in Matthew 6:26

*“Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet God feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?” (NRSV)*

God keeps caring for creation and for us. It is good for us to help God take care of creation too and to care for each other.

### 3. **Activity:**

- a) Plan your garden for this year. What will you plant and how will you take care of the garden. Think of one thing you can grow that will help butterflies or bees.
- b) Collect a few pine cones and attach them to a string. Spread peanut butter on them and dip them in bird seed. Hang the cones from a tree keeping in mind the string has to be long enough to be out of reach of outdoor cats.
- c) Visit the zoo and google how to take care of your favorite zoo animal.
- d) If you have a pet take some extra time to play with them or take them for an extra long walk (this walking activity is best for a dog not a hamster)

### 4. **Ritual:**

Sidewalk chalk is so much fun. Draw pictures of birds and flowers and write some the words that make you feel good about yourself on the sidewalk. Hopefully when others see you chalk pictures and words they will feel cared for. When you are done wash your hands and say a little prayer of thanks to God for the beauty of creation and for loving you too.

Or you can say this prayer:

*Dear God, thank you for the birds and the flowers. Thank you for the trees and for loving me. Amen.*