

Tree
Climbers



GUILD

BIRDS



A journey for dads and sons
building relationships for life

1ST & 2ND Grade Boys



TREE CLIMBERS GUILD

FOR MEN AND SONS

(1ST & 2ND Grade Boys)

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Introducing the

TREE CLIMBERS GUILD

FOR MEN AND SONS

“And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children
and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike
the land with a decree of utter destruction.” Malachi 4:6

“You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.” 2 Timothy 2:1

**There is no greater call we can answer than to be the tool that
God uses to unlock a young person’s potential.**

**Welcome to a journey for dads and sons to grow in their relationships
with Christ and with each other, while making great friends.**

AT THE GUILD...

- ▶ Young boys spend quality time with their dads and other adult men.
- ▶ Men and boys have fun learning skills and growing closer to God and each other.
- ▶ Games, projects, and adventures are centered around a weekly theme and Bible verse.
- ▶ Young boys flourish with one-on-one time with godly men.
- ▶ Dads gain leadership skills and confidence by taking turns leading games, explaining projects, and sharing stories.

**GOD BLESS YOU ON THIS JOURNEY,
AND HAVE A TERRIFIC TIME!**

CHRISTIAN SERVICE BRIGADE VISION:
GODLY MEN SERVING, LEADING, AND DISCIPLING EACH GENERATION.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE BRIGADE MISSION:
BUILDING GODLY MEN FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW.

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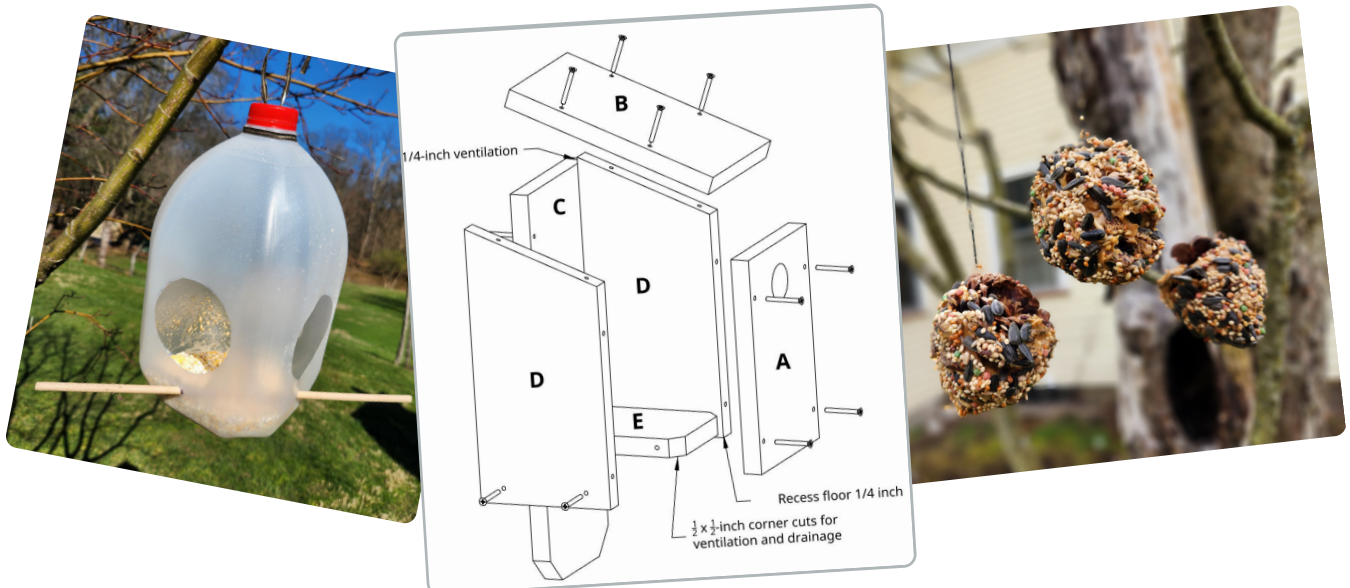
PAUSE:

A FEW WORDS OF WISDOM

“If you don’t know where you are going, you’ll end up someplace else.” – Yogi Berra

- ▶ Take time to plan!
- ▶ Pray for the Lord’s leading and guidance to accomplish His will.
- ▶ Split each week’s tasks among the men involved.
- ▶ If you are not familiar with how the Tree Climbers Guild works, take extra time to investigate the **Typical Meeting Schedule** and **Great Meeting Tactics** in the Appendixes.
- ▶ If you have not looked at **Great Meeting Tactics** in a while, take a little time to refresh yourself.
- ▶ Take time to plan!

“The heart of a man plans his way, but the Lord established his steps.” – King Solomon



UNIT INTRO

UNIT THEME: BIRDS



Spiritual Focus: GOD OUR FATHER VALUES US

Unit Objective: Through experiencing the world of birds, dads and boys will discover that children of God are valued, and He cares for them.

Skill Time Choices: Your life is full. Activities take effort to put together. Consider this time as an important investment in your relationship with boys and one another, and in engaging boys in life building experiences.

In this Birds Unit, we are offering you optional activity paths. The **Extended Project** option offers you the opportunity to carry out a single, robust project to be accomplished over a four-week period. The **Weekly Projects** option offers you four smaller projects to accomplish — one per week.

WEEK	VERSE	SPIRITUAL FOCUS	OPTION 1 ONE-BOARD BIRDHOUSE	OPTION 2 WEEKLY PROJECTS
1	Luke 12:24	God Values You	Part 1: PLAN AND MARK	Easy Milk Jug Birdfeeder
2	2 Corinthians 6:18	God Is Our Father	Part 2: CUT	Pinecone Birdfeeders
3	1 Peter 5:7	God Cares for You	Part 3: ASSEMBLE	Milk Carton Birdhouse
4	1 Peter 2:9	God Chose You	Part 4 : PAINT OR OPTION 2	Birdsong ID App and Contest

Extra-Meeting Activity Suggestions:

1. Take a nature hike using an app that identifies birds and bird songs. Specifically notice bird songs and identify as many birds as you can, both visually and by song. Don't forget to take binoculars and/or cameras with you if you have them.
2. Take a trip to an aviary or pet store.

ON THE FATHER FRONT

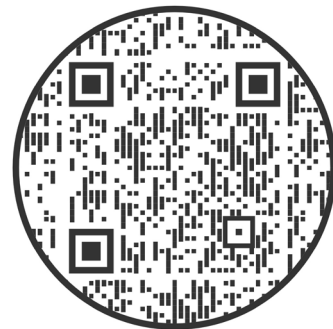
Dads, check out our video short

ON THE FATHER FRONT: EPISODE #001

Produced to help encourage and equip you for life.



**Simply scan
the QR code for
a two-minute
message of
encouragement.**



GOD VALUES YOU



Why We're Here

This week we are going to learn that God considers you to have great value.

Hearing the Word

“Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of **how much more value are you than the birds!**” Luke 12:24

Getting It Together

Note: If you do not have a dad who is competent enough in the skill area, consider employing another Christian man from outside your group to help a dad lead the Skill Time. Also, for bigger projects, give extra help and/or recruit a few men to work and plan together.

EXTENDED PROJECT CHOICE: PLANNING AND MARKING DAY

See **APPENDIX A, Week 1, page 29** for supplies and instructions.

WEEKLY PROJECT CHOICE: MILK JUG BIRDFEEDER

See **APPENDIX B, page 35** for supplies and instructions.

GAME PREP

- ▶ **BIRD RACES:** No supplies needed
- ▶ **CRAZY BIRD QUIZ:** Read over the Crazy Bird Quiz (**APPENDIX E**).



WEEK 1

GOD VALUES YOU

► WELCOME

- Welcome everyone, and introduce the Unit on Birds.
- Introduce the project.
- **FUN FACTS:** You can find birds anywhere and down your street. They live in forests, deserts, suburbs, and cities. Birds aren't like you and me. They have wings and feathers. We don't. Birds are light enough to fly because their bones and feathers are hollow. Birds eat differently than us, too. Do you eat many times your body weight every day? Birds do! They burn up more energy every day than you or I do. Their body temperature is also higher than ours—anywhere from 106° to 112°. Ours is around 98.6°. Our hearts beat less than 100 times a minute, but a robin's heart beats 570 times a minute!
- Introduce the verse for the night.
- Ask someone to open in prayer.



► GAME TIME

- **BIRD RACES:** Divide into teams of three or four. For the first race, players scrunch down and waddle like a duck. In the next race, players hop like robins. Next, they run like a roadrunner. Finally, players stand up straight and waddle like a penguin (no bending the knees).
- **CRAZY BIRD QUIZ:** Use the Crazy Bird Quiz from **APPENDIX E, page 42**. Line up the kids side by side. Read the first statement. Everyone who thinks it is true takes one step forward. Then announce the answer and read the extra facts. When you're done, give everyone a few sunflower seeds or some other "bird food." Send the Crazy Bird Quiz page home with each Tree Climber.



► SKILL TIME

Option 1: EXTENDED PROJECT

Introduce the extended project. Show an example of a finished product. Give an overview of the weekly steps for each.

Explain the details for week 1: Measure and mark the boards and drill the hole (start to cut if there is time). See **APPENDIX A, Week 1, page 29** for instructions.

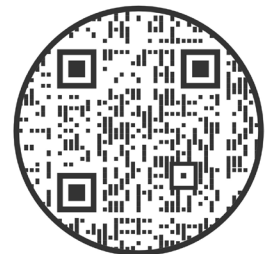
Option 2: SINGLE WEEK PROJECT

- **EASY MILK JUG BIRDFEEDER:** Introduce the project for the week. Explain each of the steps. Then, re-explain each step in more detail as you proceed through the project. See **APPENDIX B, page 35** for instructions.

► DAD/MENTOR TIME

Read together, “^(a)Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of ^(b)**how much more value are you than the birds!** (Luke 2:24)” a few times. Discuss the verse using the prompts below. Then use the remainder of your time to begin memorizing part (b) of the verse.

View or print from
your device



- 1** Jesus taught people to observe birds.
What does he want us to learn from them?
- 2** Do birds store food to eat later?
Who makes sure they get enough food to eat?
- 3** Why does Jesus say we are even more valuable than birds?
(We are made in God’s image. God died to save us from our sin.)



STORY TIME

MUCH MORE VALUABLE

by Melody Bourland

Birds are important. Canaries and parrots make good pets. Chickens and ducks are good to eat. Some birds have even made it to the World Series and the Super Bowl!

Okay, you're right. No birds played in those big games. Some teams are named for birds. Would you like to be a member of a team called the Emus? How about the Kookaburras? Would you rather be a Condor, Eagle, or Hawk instead?

The names of some birds fit better with sports because those birds are fast, big, and strong. Then again, ostriches can be 8 to 9 feet tall and weigh 300 pounds, but I doubt anyone will name a professional football or basketball team the Ostriches.

Have you ever counted geese flying in a V formation? Have you seen wildlife films where thousands of flamingos mill around in a large, shallow lake? What birds have you seen near where you live?

God made a gazillion kinds of birds, from itty-bitty hummingbirds that are no bigger than your hand to condors with 9 1/2-foot wingspans.

Some of the most common birds are

sparrows. There are lots of different kinds of sparrows, and they live in different places around the world.

There are birds all over the place. Even though God made so many of them, he cares about each and every one of them. How do we know this? Because Jesus said so! "Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God," he said in Luke 12:6.

And Jesus said that God pays attention to his creation, so he knows when a sparrow falls to the ground (Matthew 10:29).

That ought to make you feel very important!

Why? Well, when Jesus said that God cares what happens to little sparrows, he also said, "You are worth more than many sparrows."

Jesus mentioned how much God cares for birds several times. And each time, he told people, "You are worth more."

"Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.



Are you not much more valuable than they?" (Matthew 6:25)

Doesn't that make you feel great? God cares about all the birds, and he cares about you even more!

Jesus used birds as a picture of how much God cares about us. "Do not worry about what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds!" (Luke 12:22- 24)

Did you hear what Jesus said? God takes care of the birds because they are valuable to him. "And how much more valuable you are than birds!"

He said that about every one of us. "And how much more valuable you are than birds!"

Can you say that with me? "And how much more valuable you are than birds!"

Now tell someone sitting next to you. "And how much more valuable you are than birds!" Are birds important to God? Yes! Are you and I important to God? "And

how much more valuable you are than birds!"

When you go home, tell your family. "And how much more valuable you are than birds!" Tell your friends and neighbors, too.

I hope you always remember how important the Lord thinks you are.

Every time you see a bird, you can know, "And how much more valuable you are than birds!"

Talk About It

- 1** What did Jesus say about birds that tells you God cares about them?
- 2** Why do you think we are more important than the birds? (We are made after God's own image (Gen. 1:27-28). We have souls, which means we have the ability to know God. (John 17:3))
- 3** How does it feel knowing that God cares about you even more than he cares about birds?

