

Of Birds and Bread

As I was having lunch in a city park recently, a lady walked up carrying some heavily laden shopping bags. She sat on the ground in a large grassy area and took a bread roll from one of the bags. She started breaking it into large pieces which she then threw out on the grass. That quiet area of the park soon became littered with squawking pigeons!

At first the birds were fighting each other for the pieces of bread. Gradually, the lady threw out more bread. Eventually there was enough for each of the birds to have a piece of their own, so the fighting mostly ceased.

The bread was far too large for them to eat in one piece. They would bite some bread in their beak and would toss their head back to tear off a piece to eat.

Pieces of bread were flying everywhere as the birds tossed it over their heads. It was like a hail storm with bouncing white blobs in the air and on the ground. The confusion of birds and bread was quite a sight!

The situation reminded me of the time in the bible when Jesus miraculously fed thousands of people from just a few loaves and fishes. I wonder if the people initially fought over the food, like the birds in the story, when there seemed to be only a small amount? God has plenty of love for each of us and promises to provide for all our needs if we ask him.