

CONNIE'S CORNER

Building a Nest

by

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One Saturday I sat on my back porch and noticed a squirrel building a nest in a neighbor's tree. Some of the nest had already been constructed by the little furry creature but it seemed to view the new structure as needing more. It scampered down the strong bent hollowed bough and returned with a pliable leafy branch in its mouth. With its fluffy tail toward the sky it placed the branch in the nest with diligence and awareness of how to lay or entangle the new branch into the nest. After the task was completed it ran down the bough to find more branches and return with its prize and performed this task over and over again.

The activity of the squirrel brought to mind how persistent we should be to build our nest for heaven. We have a tendency to relax, forgetting that God wants us to be with Him. Our lives should be a reflective plan of persistence and steadfastness as we build our place with God. Life is not easy, but if we keep the Commandments, His covenant with helps us build our nest in heaven. Sometimes despair envelopes us and we forget this covenant. He will always be with us to carry us through the trials and tribulations of life, but despair leads to fear and actions unbecoming to His commands. He says for us to fear not, because His strength and mercy pours forth in great abundance. When we fall He is there to pick us up and sometimes He has to drag us to get our attention.

The little squirrel keeps working to build a nest to provide safety and warmth. Our God provides the same things for us as His arms are always wrapped around us to keep us safe and warm in His word. Bible study helps us understand the awesomeness of God and also His continued forgiveness. There is always a permanent relationship with our God that continues to help as build our nests. Bible study gives us more understanding of His greatness and how great we can become in His eyes to complete our nests.

As we watch the squirrel building its nest remember God will provide as many leafy branches as we need to find comfort in His arms, but He expects us to add to the nest, too. The rain, snow, cold, and the unending search for food for the squirrel symbolizes our trials and tribulations we encounter. One sure thing about the squirrel, it doesn't hibernate to avoid problems. It remains alert and continues building its nest to satisfy its needs. God said He will provide all our needs. Believe, believe, believe and belief in Him will call us into action in His name. When the squirrel flicks its tail it means for predators to stay away. When we reach for our bibles we tell evil to stay away and it's done.

In the name of the Father who loves me, the Son who lives within me, and the Holy Spirit that empowers me. Amen, Amen, Amen.

