

## GEESE, CHRISTIANS AND THE “V” FORMATION!

Feeling somewhat *down* today, I sat at the computer, opened Outlook, and thanked the Lord for friends and the technology of email. I reread the precious responses I have received since this battle of Cancer began. Feeling encouraged, an article popped into my mind that a friend has sent to me months ago about the comparison between geese and Christians.

In the fall, geese head south for the winter—flying along in a “V” formation. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a “V” formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.



Each email is a wing flap releasing this awesome principle into my life. Encouragement, love and God’s truth is being shared, giving me a greater flying range—not falling, but continuing on. Traveling on the thrust of one another in God’s power and in His love, we share common direction and a sense of unity which helps us get where we need to go quicker and easier. As we bear one another’s burdens and follow Jesus’ teaching that love is a practical demonstration—we keep the “V” formation intact.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feel the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front. Therefore, when the battle rages hard and heavy in a believer’s life who has fallen out of line, our Helper, the Holy Spirit, lovingly guides him back into the place of safety and unity—God’s “V” formation. He does so by using the family of God. Each person has his place in line and his role is important to those around him.

When the lead goose gets tired, he rotates to the back of the formation and another goose flies point. The geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed. And when a goose becomes sick, or is wounded by a shot and falls out, two geese fall out of formation and follow him down to help protect him. They stay with him until he is either able to fly, or until he is dead, and then they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up with their original group. *Love fails not.*

God created geese with these wonderful attributes and we as God’s people, created in His image, can release even mightier acts of love, and sacrificial giving into the lives of the family of God. Being loved and being part of a family is what life is all about. Love demonstrations often soften people’s hearts and through them the lost are brought to Jesus. So you see all we have to do in order to win the lost and attract those who are missing back to church is to demonstrate to the world that we have as much sense as geese.

Even geese have sense enough to know that the “V” works every time. So, keep flapping your wings and stay in line! As I finished writing this story I heard a strange noise outside. Quickly looking out the window I saw a “V” formation of geese flying over my house; *the noise*—geese honking! That’s God!