

## God Provides

I'm convinced God has a sense of humor and that He delights in occasionally sharing small jokes with us, always with a purpose. Here's a case in point. We often find things on our morning walks along the roads and trails of our neighborhood. Usually trash, but once in a while we discover "treasure" – a piece of jewelry, a working flashlight, a bit of usable hardware, etc.

Our most recent find wasn't particularly valuable, but it was potentially useful: 2 packages of mole bait, which must have fallen off some landscaper's truck. Although we had no current mole issues, the bait was bound to come in handy sooner or later. Then, the very next day, I went to church to water a newly planted garden area, and what do you think I found? A dozen or more mole hills had popped up overnight! Not a pleasant discovery, but instead of getting upset I laughed out loud, thinking of Matthew 6:8, where Jesus tells us that God knows what we need before we ask. God knew we would need to deal with a mole, and He provided the means to do it in advance!

*"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? ...See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If this is how God clothes the grass of the field... will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For... your heavenly Father knows [what you need]. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."* (Matthew 6:26-33)

Although we may not always recognize it at the time, looking back, we can often see how our good God provided, perhaps not giving us exactly what we wanted but rather just what we needed. We see how things we experienced prepared us for a challenge He knew was coming, how an apparent evil was turned to ultimate good. *God causes all things to work together for good to those who love Him* (Romans 8:28). God not only cares about the big stuff in our lives but also the little things. And sometimes He goes out of his way to show us... like providing mole bait before we know we have a mole.

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