



AMERICAN ROBINS

Plan ahead to provide for others' wants and needs.

The Bible Says...

“Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”

Philippians 2:4

One day early in spring, the female American Robin looks for a place to build her nest. She doesn't choose just any place, though. She carefully chooses a good, safe place, such as a sturdy branch, or where two branches join together. She makes sure there's enough food and water nearby and the right kind of mud and grass to build her nest.

Once she has decided what will be the best place to raise her babies, she starts to build her nest. First she chooses some small sticks and builds a little platform. Then she flies to the place where she had found soft mud. Scooping some up in her bill, she flies back and puts it on top of the sticks.

The robin also knows that mud by itself isn't strong enough for a nest. A nest made out of just mud would fall apart. So she weaves lots of dry grass into the mud to make it strong. Back and forth she flies, bringing mud and grass, carefully building the nest with her bill and shaping it

with her body so that it will be just right.

Little by little, the nest grows taller and taller, until it is about six inches wide and three inches high on the outside. Then, before she lays her eggs, she lines the inside of the nest with small pieces of soft, dried grass to keep her babies warm, clean, and comfortable.

The American Robin reminds us of how thoughtful God is. When He made our world, He didn't start by making people. He first made air to breathe, land to stand on, food to eat, sunshine, and everything else they would need or want.

Thoughtful people are like that, too. They are always thinking ahead of ways to provide for the things other people will want or need. They are always watching for a chance to help someone else—before they even ask.

Practice watching for ways to help others. See if you can guess what a person will need and help them before they have a chance to ask.

