



A Sense of a Goose

A story of teamwork

When you see geese flying along in 'V' formation, you might consider what science has discovered as to why they fly in that way. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in the 'V' formation, the whole flock adds at least 71 percent greater flying range than if the bird in front flew on its own.

LESSON:

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they're travelling on the thrust of another.

Whenver a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back in formation to take advantage of the "lifting power" of the bird immediately in front.

LESSON:

If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go, and be willing to accept their help as well as give ours to others.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into formation and another goose flies at the point position.

LESSON:

It pays to take turns doing the tasks and sharing leadership.

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

LESSON:

We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging and not something else.

When a goose gets sick or wounded, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own starting another formation, or catch up with the flock.

LESSON:

If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.

