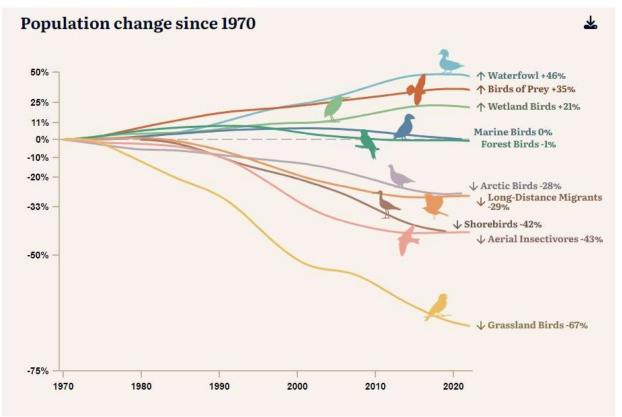
## Consider the Birds

**Genesis 1:20-22** "And God said, ...let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky." 21 So God created ... every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. 22 God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and ... let the birds increase on the earth."

Unfortunately, some bird numbers have fallen; see Birds Canada. <a href="https://www.birdscanada.org/introducing-the-state-of-canadas-birds">https://www.birdscanada.org/introducing-the-state-of-canadas-birds</a> . There are many reasons including climate change, pesticide use, habitat loss, window strikes, only using non-native ornamental plants and outdoor cats etc.



Cornell University also reports: <a href="https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/vanishing-1-in-4-birds-gone/">https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/vanishing-1-in-4-birds-gone/</a>. Grasslands Birds are down and where do we live - in the moist mixed grassland. From Bird's Canada we find out in more recent data that "Ninety-four bird species are now assessed to be at risk of extinction in Canada, a number that only keeps rising." <a href="https://www.birdscanada.org/recent-updates-to-extinction-risk-assessments-for-canadian-birds-2">https://www.birdscanada.org/recent-updates-to-extinction-risk-assessments-for-canadian-birds-2">https://www.birdscanada.org/recent-updates-to-extinction-risk-assessments-for-canadian-birds-2</a>; <a href="https://naturecanada.ca/discover-nature/about-our-birds/how-climate-change-is-affecting-birds/">https://naturecanada.ca/discover-nature/about-our-birds/how-climate-change-is-affecting-birds/</a>
Let's pay attention and think about how we might be able to help birds. Cornell University suggests 7 ways.

https://www.birds.cornell.edu/home/seven-simple-actions-to-help-birds/ These are particularly helpful in the city. We followed one of their suggestions and placed feather-friendly dots on our problem windows and reduced bird strikes significantly.

Birds Canada has many resources as well. If you are new to bird watching check out this resource. <a href="https://www.birdscanada.org/choosing-the-right-feeder-and-seed-a-guide-to-keeping-backyard-birds-healthy">https://www.birdscanada.org/choosing-the-right-feeder-and-seed-a-guide-to-keeping-backyard-birds-healthy</a>



Psalm 24 and 95 tell us the earth belongs to God. Let us take care of it including the birds he created. Interested? Join your local Nature Group (e.g. Nature Saskatoon etc.) or join online with ebird, iNaturalist or Merlin Bird ID.