Born to House Hunt

Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. – Matthew 6:8

Hermit crabs are one of the most industrious creatures you will find at the seashore. They never seem completely happy with the shell they have chosen for their home. They seem constantly to try on new shells. Sometimes a hermit crab will try on the new find, return to its old shell, and try on the new shell again to see which one offers the most comfortable fit.

Obviously there is more to this story than just the fussiness of the hermit crab. God gave hermit crabs the ability to sense calcium – the stuff of which shells are made. Hermit crabs can even sense dissolved calcium from buried shells. Research shows that a hermit crab favors shells that have the most calcium, as long as it's a comfortable fit.

If hermit crabs were unable to find the shells with the most calcium – the strongest shells – hermit crabs could endanger their lives by adopting unsuitable homes. God gave the hermit crab its special abilities before the hermit crab started using those abilities to help itself. As we review our own accomplishments, we do well to apply the lesson of the hermit crab to ourselves and learn to use the talents He has given us.


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