

Animals in the Bible

The Bible is full of stories about animals, from Noah's ark to Jesus riding on a donkey. At the time the Bible was written, how many animals you had was a sign of how rich you were, and often animals were used as sacrifices to deal with the sin of the people so they could be closer to God.

Noah used a raven first, then a dove to see if the ground was dry enough for them to come out of the ark. Daniel was thrown into a pit of lions, but God saved him. Jonah was swallowed up by a "Big fish" that latter spat him out right where God wanted him.

Before Jesus called the 12 disciples, most of them were fishermen and Jesus told them that they would be "fishers of men."

But my favourite story is about an animal in the Bible is the little known story about Balaam and his talking Donkey. This story is found in the book of the Bible called **Numbers**, chapter **22**. Balaam was a man that people thought had magical powers, but really he just talked and listened to God.

One day a powerful king asked Balaam to come and curse the people of God. Balaam really wanted to go because he knew how much he would get paid, but God didn't want Balaam to go. So God sent an angel to stop Balaam. Three times the angel came with a flaming sword to stop Balaam but all three times Balaam's donkey saw the angel and moved out of the way. However Balaam couldn't see the angel and was furious with his donkey for going off the trail. After the third time, Balaam beat his donkey and God opened the donkey's mouth. Balaam's donkey asked him why he was beating him. God then let Balaam see the angel and Balaam then realised he was not doing what God wanted him to do. Balaam fell down on the ground and asked God for forgiveness. God told Balaam to go to the King, but this time he was only supposed to do what God told him to do and only say what God gave him to say.

So Balaam, through his talking donkey and an angel with a sword, learned to always do what God wanted him to do.

The Bible is full of cool stories of people learning to follow God and doing what He wants them to do.

We may never have an animal talk to us, but God still wants us to do what he asks. And what God asks us to do is to love God and to love everyone around us.

THE Giant Mug

Camp Clayton Youth News



March 2006



Hey Guys, I have some very exciting news. As some of you knew, I was planning to finish up here at camp and move back to the USA to spend time with my family. Well, Camp and I have worked out some awesome new things and I am now going to be around for another few years. I will be going to the USA for 8 weeks leaving in July, but I will be back right before the September camps so I can see all of you. Both Carla (My wife) and I are very excited to be spending some time with our families in the USA.

But that is not the best news. We have also brought Stuart Crabtree on as the new male youth worker here at camp. You will still see me here at camps, but now Stu will be joining the team here at camp full time. As any of you who have had Stu as your cabin leader or been to a camp Stu has supervised will know, Stu is awesome and a lot of fun. And I am so happy to have him here at camp to help us with the camps. For those of you who don't know Stu read on and Stu will tell us a bit about himself. Also come along to September camps and meet him. I am very excited about this year at camp.

Both Stu and I would love to hear how your year is going so send us an email or a letter.

See ya,

Micah



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Hey guys,

This is Stu. I'm what you call a Camp-aholic, I love Camp and keep coming back over and over again. You might remember me as a Cabin leader at some Camps that you've been to. I've been working at Camp for about a year now, helping out with the activities - giant swing, flying fox, etc. And now I'm really excited to be on staff full time as a youth worker. I'm really looking forward to getting more involved with you guys, hanging out with you at Camp and getting to know you a bit better.

So, feel free to write me a letter every now and then, and fill me in on what's happening in your life. But first of all, I'll let you get to know me a little better. So keep reading...

A Quiz of my Favourite things...

Food-

- A) Cabbage B) Oysters C) Chocolate

Sport-

- A) Cricket B) AFL C) Figure Skating

Colour-

- A) Orange B) Turquoise C) Yellow

Animal-

- A) Porcupine B) Mongoose C) Tiger

Game-

- A) Monopoly B) Twister C) Chess

Toothpaste-

- A) Colgate B) Macleans C) Home Brand

Cereal-

- A) Coco Pops B) Corn Flakes C) Weet-bix

Book of the Bible-

- A) James B) 1 Thessalonians C) Genesis

Season-

- A) Spring B) Summer C) Winter

(You can find the answers in the word find...)

A Word find...

R	W	W	D	Y	D	H	D	E	C	O	B	C	E	T
L	E	F	Y	S	B	X	R	U	R	G	Y	I	A	U
T	E	T	T	F	D	D	G	U	I	G	I	X	E	H
W	T	S	D	I	J	F	B	D	C	F	U	V	Y	S
A	B	G	S	S	H	D	E	A	K	G	Y	T	B	I
O	I	A	I	T	U	T	S	W	E	S	G	W	C	O
T	X	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E	T	I	D	S
C	K	S	B	R	H	R	Z	U	D	F	T	S	G	N
J	E	V	E	A	F	R	X	T	D	Y	Z	T	P	A
A	S	G	U	N	V	U	E	O	F	U	T	E	T	E
M	E	D	B	G	F	R	U	T	F	H	U	R	E	L
E	U	G	I	E	P	H	G	A	N	E	K	Y	T	C
S	D	Y	D	J	U	E	O	Y	V	I	R	D	G	A
F	H	S	T	I	G	E	R	S	T	I	W	S	A	M
C	O	X	D	P	U	T	A	S	G	M	O	T	N	O

 ★ **Did you know...** ★
 ★ Donald Duck comics were banned in ★
 ★ Finland, because he doesn't wear pants. ★
 ★



UPCOMING CAMPS!

Who's excited about the September Holiday Camps?
WE ARE! And you should be too 'cos they're going to be awesome! We're going animal crazy!
 The theme for 3/4 is "Noah's Animal Adventure" and 5/6 will be "Animal Outbreak". So get your form in as soon as you can and get ready for another fantastic, out of this world, totally unique, mind boggling, adventure packed week at Camp Clayton!!!!

camp clayton We would love to hear from you!

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