

Kanga Joe & Co

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Characters

Narrator

Charlie

Charity

Kanga Joe

Emily Emu

Caroline Cockatoo

Katie Koala

Wally Wombat

Diana Dingo

Billy Bilby

Owl

Snake

1: The King's Garden

Fruit of the Spirit: love

Narrator

Down near Bunyip Creek live two children, Charlie and Charity. This story is about the adventures of these two children, and all their animal friends, who live in the bush along the banks of Bunyip Creek. There's Kanga Joe, Emily Emu, Katie Koala, Billy Bilby, Caroline Cockatoo, Mrs. Possum, Wally Wombat and Diana Dingo. Charity and Charlie have made the animals of Bunyip Creek their special friends.

Now the adventure really begins in a special garden, a long way from Bunyip Creek. The garden is called 'The King's Garden'. Would you like to know how to get to the King's Garden?

Charlie and Charity

Yes. We'd love to!

Narrator

Well, before we can go to the King's garden, there's something we must do. We have to put on love.

All

How do we do that?

Narrator

The bible tells us about it. Putting on love is a bit like putting on clothes really. It's something you do. When you get up in the morning you put on your clothes. You can also decide that today, you are going to be loving and kind to everyone you meet.

Charlie and Charity

O.K Let's do it then.

Narrator

Here we go...1, 2, 3...Put on L - O - V - E - love! There's something you'll need to get into the King's Garden. It's called the key of life, but you'll hear more about that later. Now let's begin our story.

One day, Charlie and Charity were down by Bunyip Creek when they came across an old bottle.

Charity

Look, Charlie! It's a bottle with a message in it! Just like the ones people throw out to sea, and they hope that someone finds it. I wonder if it will have an important message in it. I'll pick it up and wash it in the creek. Now I'll just dry it on my jeans, and now, very carefully pull out the cork. There's a rolled-up piece of paper inside. I wonder what it says!

Look! It says it's a message from the King.

Charlie

What King?

Charity

It says it's from a King who has a special garden, and we can go there!

Charlie

Is it a secret garden?

Charity

No. The message says that the King, who owns the garden, wants everyone to know about it. He wants everyone to come to His garden. There's a key to the garden, Charlie.

Charlie

Is it in the bottle?

Charity

No it's not. The message says that you can't get into the garden without the key. The key is found in the bible. John 14:6 says, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me". The King is the Father, and His son Jesus said this. We can only go to the Father through Jesus.

Charlie

Go where?

Charity

To the King's garden of course. The message says that the King's Garden is a place that the King has prepared for all who love and serve Him. It is a place where we will live forever, with no sadness, sickness, no darkness, fear or evil.

Charlie

That sounds wonderful. Why don't we go!

Charity

There's something else. If you truly want to go, you have to ask the King's Son, Jesus, to forgive you for all the wrong things you've ever done. Then ask Him to be your friend.

Charlie

I've heard about Jesus. I remember hearing about Him at the Bunyip Creek Christmas play last month. I remember how He came as a little baby, but when He grew up He died on a cross so that people could be forgiven for the things they'd done wrong.

Charity

If the King has sent us a special message, then He must be telling us that He wants us to make Jesus our special friend. That's the key Charlie. It's the key of salvation! We have to ask Jesus to forgive us for our sins and ask Him into our life. I'm going to do that straight away. Then we can go to the King's garden.

Charlie

Now all we have to do is put on love Charity!

Narrator

And they did. Before they knew it, the children were in the King's Garden.

Charity

Oh, isn't this just beautiful, Charlie. Just look at all those animals. They're all playing together and not frightened of anyone or anything.

That's because of the King's love. All the creatures in the garden know only love, and have no fear. I'm sure I could pick up this baby tiger...

Charlie

And I'll stroke the mother tiger. I've always wanted to pat a tiger.

Charity

You know, I think Jesus wants us to be like these animals...loving, kind and gentle, trusting in the King's love.

Charlie

Look at these amazing plants! What's this tree? It looks like a fruit tree!

Charity

It *is* a fruit tree. Just look at all those different fruits. I've never seen different fruits on one tree before. Look! Here's my name! L-O-V-E...that's the meaning of my name. Charity means love!

Charlie

But there are other fruits too...love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Charity

Look! Here's a notice from the King. It's rolled up in this special scroll.

Charlie

Open it, Charity

Charity

It says, 'Choose a fruit from this tree, and I will help you grow more like me.' signed...the King.

Charlie

I think that means that the King wants us to have these fruits in our lives...so that we become... more loving, more joyful, more peaceful, more patient, kind and good, more faithful, gentle, and having self-control. Which fruit are you going to choose, Charity?

Charity

I'm going to choose love, because that's my name.

Charlie

So it is! If you choose this fruit, then the King will expect you to be more loving and more kind to others, and to love Him as well of course. I'm going to choose joy, because making people happy is what I do best!

Narrator

The two children suddenly thought about Bunyip Creek. It seemed that they had been away for a long time. Maybe Mum would be wondering where they were. And then they thought about all their animal friends. How they would love to hear of the new animals they had met in the King's Garden.

Charlie

Come on. I think it's time to go. But we must come back here very soon!

Narrator

The children took their precious fruits, love and joy, and before you could say 1, 2, 3, they were back at Bunyip Creek.

Charity

Look at the sun! It's in the same position as when we left. We've really taken no time at all in the King's Garden. It was as if time stood still.

Charlie

That's good. It would have been hard to explain to Mum where we'd been. Look. Here comes Kanga Joe. Let's tell him all about it.

Narrator

So that's what they did. They told Kanga Joe of their wonderful adventure in the King's Garden, and showed him the special fruit. The children hung their fruits carefully on a gum tree, and all the other animals came to have a look. Charlie and Charity explained to the animals that these fruits were not for eating, but to help us be more loving and joyful, just as servants of the King should be.

Do you remember what Charlie and Charity had to do to get to the King's Garden? They had to take the key of life, and 1,2,3, put on love!

God wants us to put on love every day.

What's love?

Love is...

- Loving others with the same kind of love that God has for us.
- loving God first and treating others the way you would like to be treated yourself.
- **Jesus said, "Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and love your neighbour as yourself. (Mark 12:30-31)**

2. The Birthday Party

Fruit of the Spirit: joy

Narrator

It was a really special day. It was Emily Emu's birthday. Emily didn't know that it was her birthday. You know what emus are like. They never know when their birthday is. Anyway, the animals of Bunyip Creek thought that they could do something special for Emily. They wanted to give her a birthday party.

Kanga Joe, being the fastest animal in the bush, bounded along, quickly giving invitations to everyone he met, but making sure that Emily Emu didn't hear about it. Here's Kanga Joe...Let's listen in...

Kanga Joe

Can you come to Emily Emu's birthday party, 5 o'clock today at the big rock?...Wally Wombat...Can you come?... and Katie Koala... and Billy Bilby...and Caroline Cockatoo?

Narrator

Soon all the animals knew the time and the meeting place. It wasn't long before Kanga Joe ran into Emily.

Kanga Joe

Hello Emily. I'm really busy at the moment. You don't think you could come over at 5 o'clock and help me with cleaning up my garden do you? You're so good at picking up papers. I could really use some help.

Emily Emu

Of course I'll help. What are friends for? I'll see you at 5 o'clock.

Narrator

Now Emily thought that she was coming to do lots of work. Wouldn't she be in for a surprise! Making others happy is a way of sharing joy, and that's just what the animals were planning. They wanted to give Emily joy, by giving her a surprise party, and making her feel special. Happiness is another name for joy, and joy is one of the special fruits of the Spirit. When we are followers of the King, we have joy inside,

and the King wants us to give that joy away to others. Charity and Charlie had not been forgotten. They were invited too. They were busy deciding what to put in their picnic basket.

Charity

How about some fruit.

Charlie

What a good idea. Let's pick a big basket of fruit. I know! We could go to the King's Garden and get some of that really special fruit.

Charity

Excellent idea. We have to take our key of Life...

Charlie

and don't forget to put on love! Here we are. Now let's find the special tree. There it is.

Charity

This fruit looks delicious. It says J-O-Y joy! Let's pick some of that.

Charlie

Okay. Now let's hurry back and get everything ready.

Narrator

All the animals were making preparations. There were lots of yummy things to eat and drink, as well as party hats, balloons and whistles.

It was nearly five o'clock, and the picnic table looked great. Everyone hid behind the big rock. Soon Emily came along expecting to pick up her papers.

Kanga Joe

I'll count to 3, and we'll all shout out "SURPRISE". Are you ready? Here she comes now..."

Emily Emu

Kanga Joe, where are you? I'm here to help you pick up papers with my special Emu beak.

All

1, 2, 3, SURPRISE, Happy Birthday Emily!

Emily

Is it really my birthday today? How wonderful...and thank you everyone for coming to help me celebrate. Just look at this picnic table.

Kanga Joe

You can have first choice of anything you like today Emily.

Emily Emu

Oh thank you. Those Pumpkin Gobble Kisses look delicious...Mmm and taste delicious too. Help yourself everyone!

Narrator

And so the animals, along with Charlie and Charity had a wonderful time together, sharing yummy food and fun, but also sharing the fruit of the Spirit.

The next day, Charlie and Charity were on their way to the old apple tree that grew on the bank of Bunyip Creek. They were going to collect some apples to make an apple pie. They had almost filled their basket when they spotted old Mrs. Possum under the tree, eating an apple that had fallen on the ground. The children noticed that some of Mrs. Possum's fur had started to fall out. She was getting so old that collecting food was becoming very tiring for her. The children decided to gather up some apples for her too.

Charity

I love giving surprises. Emily Emu sure loved her surprise birthday party yesterday.

Narrator

The children filled the hollow in the tree with the ripe juicy apples. What a surprise Mrs. Possum got when she returned home to find her hollow filled with apples!

Charlie

You know, we have just discovered the real meaning of one of the fruits from the King's Garden. Giving things to others to make them happy is giving them JOY!

Charity

Doing special things for people is a way of giving them joy...especially when the special thing we do is a surprise! We can give others joy by helping them. Like helping Mum and Dad to put away our toys and setting the table for dinner. I'm going to help Mum make the apple pie when I get home.

Charlie.

Yes! We can give Mum and Dad joy by doing the things we are asked to do. Being kind and thoughtful is showing joy.

Charity

We can make things for others too. We can make little presents for others even when it's not their birthday! That really would be a JOY surprise!

I've just thought of a way that we can help all the animals to give joy to each other. We can make a sign and hang it on this tree.

Charlie

We can write this little saying:

JOY...J for Jesus first... O for others next...Y for yourself last.

Narrator

The children found an old piece of board and some paints and got busy with their special sign. When it was finished, they hung it on the tree for all the animals to see and it wasn't long before all the animals were doing special things for each other.

What's joy?

Joy is ...

- the happiness that God gives
- sharing God's happiness with others

3: The Drought

Fruit of the Spirit: peace

Narrator

Katie Koala was so worried. There had been no rain for weeks and soon all the animals of the bush would be running out of food and water. Her friend, Caroline Cockatoo offered to help. Now it's time to meet the characters...

Characters in turn...

Hi, I'm Katie Koala...I'm Caroline Cockatoo...I'm Kanga Joe...I'm Charlie...and I'm Charity.

Caroline Cockatoo

Don't worry, Katie. I'll help you find water. I know that the Good King will look after us. He'll send rain soon. Because I'm a bird I can help you in a special way. I'll fly high above the bush where I can get a bird's eye view of the rivers and water holes. Then I'll let you and the other animals know the best place to find water.

Katie Koala

Oh thanks, Caroline. You are such a kind bird. In the mean time I'll go and eat some more gum leaves. It's so hot, but I'll get some lovely refreshing juice from the leaves.

Narrator

Katie settled down to eat her gum leaves, hoping that Caroline wouldn't be too long. She knew how urgently they needed to find water.

Katie

I suppose Caroline is right. We must believe that the Good King will look after us. Worrying about things doesn't help. When we worry, we don't have peace. Listen I think I can hear something.

Katie

Peace...isn't that one of the fruits of the Spirit...one of the special fruits in the King's garden? When Caroline comes back, I think we will go there together. I sure need some peace inside right now, so that I

can stop worrying about this drought. Ah...here comes Caroline now. What did you find, Caroline?

Caroline

There's a bit of water left in a water hole at the east end of the creek, Katie, but all of the mud pools have dried up. There should be enough water to last a few more days, if we all drink only what we need and no more. We must tell the other animals where they can find water. We must also tell them that they must not worry, because the Good king will take care of them. Come on. Let's go off and find the other animals.

Katie

Kanga Joe...tell the others...there's water to be found at the east end of the creek...

Narrator

And so, by bush telegraph, all the animals soon knew where to find water.

Caroline

I've got an idea, Katie. In the King's garden there is a crystal river. It has water that will never run dry. Charlie and Charity have told us about it. I wonder if we could go and bring some back, and at the same time, let's get some of that special fruit called peace. But how do we get to the King's Garden? Look. Here come Charlie and Charity. Maybe they can tell us.

Charlie

This is what you do. You take the key of Salvation, and 1,2,3, put on love!

Narrator

And that's just what they did. Soon they were there, looking for the special fruit tree...

Caroline

Over there! There it is! I'll go ahead and perch on its branches. Charlie and Charity, you catch up.

Charity

I'd forgotten how beautiful the fruits were. Nine of them altogether... love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Charlie

You know, the wonderful thing about this tree is that no matter how many fruits you pick, new ones just keep on growing. It always has fruit. That's how it should be with us, too. We should always have the fruits of the Spirit in our lives. We should never run out of fruit!

Katie

I'm going to pick the fruit of peace, because that's what we need right now. We need to have peace inside that the Good King will look after us all.

Caroline

Let's take this fruit to the crystal river and see if we can get some water for the animals. Wait...here's a message from the King... It says, "Do not worry about food or clothes, for I will take care of you". That sure gives me peace to know the Good King is looking after us.

Narrator

Caroline flew ahead once again, making her way to the Crystal River, while the others followed. Caroline looked around for something to carry water in.

Caroline

Over here! Look what I've found...It's a melon. We could eat the melon from the inside, then fill up the empty melon with water. Then Katie could tie it to her back with this strong vine so that you she can carry it.

Katie

That's a good idea. I'm used to carrying a baby on my back. I'm sure I could carry a melon.

Narrator

They all started eating the melon. How delicious it tasted. Then they filled the shell with sparkling crystal water. How beautiful the water tasted too. Then they all helped to tie the melon to Katie's back..

Caroline

Let's go back to the other animals. We'll find them at the water hole at the east end of the creek.

Narrator

And off they went. How happy the animals were to see them. They crowded around with curiosity, wondering why the melon was tied to Katie's back.

Charlie

It's water from the crystal river in the King's Garden...

Charity

And we have a special message from the King. He says that we must not worry about food or clothes, but to have peace inside, knowing that He will take care of us. That means He'll provide water too. Now everyone, come and have a sip. Don't worry, there's enough for everyone.

Narrator

So everyone enjoyed a beautiful refreshing drink of water from the Crystal River. Then suddenly Kanga Joe's nose twitched. He could feel something in the air.

Kanga Joe

Do you smell what I smell? I think there's something in the air...Yes, it smells like rain...It *is* rain. Come on everyone. Let's get wet!

Narrator

And so the animals had a wonderful time in the rain. They were happy too knowing that the Good King cared for them, and provided all the things they needed. Charlie and Charity thought about it too.

Charity

If God provides for the birds and animals, how much more will he care for us?"

Narrator

The animals learned something very important from the drought at Bunyip Creek. They now knew that if they trusted in God, their Heavenly Father, they didn't have to worry. They could have peace inside, knowing that God would care for them.

What's peace?

Peace is ...

- a calm feeling inside, knowing that God is looking after you
- letting God take all your worries

4: The Treasure Hunt

Fruit of the Spirit: patience

Narrator

Today, Charlie and Charity are going to meet some more animal friends from Bunyip Creek. Let's see what Katie Koala and Wally Wombat are up to. Let's meet them...

Characters in turn...

Hi, I'm Katie Koala...I'm Wally Wombat...I'm Charlie...and I'm Charity.

Wally Wombat

Hello Katie. Do you know where I can get some fresh roots to eat? We wombats love to eat roots. You don't? How boring. I'll have to munch on some of this grass until I can find some. Hello, what's this? A note stuck to a tree! It says, '*Yummy roots to be found, hidden in the ground. All you need is patience.*'

I wonder what *patience* is. Do you know what patience is, Katie?"

Katie

No, I don't.

Wally

O well. I'll just go and have a rest near this tree over here..

Katie

Look, Wally! The old gum tree has some special fruits hanging on it. Charlie and Charity brought them back from the King's Garden and hung them on the tree! Look...love, joy, peace.

Narrator

Just then, Charlie and Charity came along.

Wally

Please Charlie and Charity, could you take me to the special tree in the King's Garden, so that I can get some fruit?

Charity

What a good idea. I'm just dying to go there again myself. But there's something we have to do first.

Charlie

I remember. We have to take the key of Salvation, then 1,2,3, put on love! Come on. Let's go.

Narrator

The children were soon in the garden, and headed straight for the special tree. This time they found a note attached to the tree. It was a message from the King.

Charity

'Choose a fruit from this tree, and I'll help you grow more like Me.' He wants us to be more like Him. You know, more loving and kind.

Charlie

and more joyful. Look here's a fruit that says PATIENCE.

Wally

I wonder, if I pick patience, then perhaps I will understand what patience is....Ah...got it! I remember that note I found. It said, *'yummy roots to be found, hidden in the ground.'*

Charlie

Come on Wally. Let's go on a treasure hunt!

Wally (making a scratching sound)

Here's one! And I've found another one!

Charity

We're so pleased that you've found your yummy roots, Wally.

Wally

Now I know what patience is. When you're looking for something that's hard to find, you must have patience. That means never giving up. Keep trying until you've found what you're looking for. We not only need patience when we're looking for things, but patience when we're waiting for something to happen. And as well, patience when we're doing different jobs...Like cleaning out my wombat hole.

Charity

And cleaning my room. It's a bit like doing a difficult jigsaw. You have to keep working at it with patience until it's done.

Narrator

Now that they had learned patience, the children thought that it was time to go back to Bunyip Creek. In no time they were back at the gum tree where the fruits LOVE and JOY were hanging. The children, along with Wally, added a new fruit, PATIENCE, and soon all the other animals were gathering around to look. Wally told them about needing patience to find the yummy roots. Charlie and Charity told the animals what they had learned about patience too. Can you remember what patience is.

- **Patience is**
- learning to wait
- not getting angry when things are not going as we'd like.
- sticking to a job and not giving up.
- waiting for our prayers to be answered.
- We need patience with people, patience with jobs, patience with ourselves.

5: Help for Diana Dingo

Fruit of the Spirit: kindness and gentleness

Narrator

This is a story about some friends of Kanga Joe: Katie Koala, Caroline Cockatoo and Diana Dingo. They live at Bunyip Creek, with lots of other animal friends. Say hello guys!

Characters in turn:

Hi. I'm Kanga Joe...I'm Katie Koala... I'm Caroline Cockatoo...and I'm Diana Dingo.

Narrator

Caroline Cockatoo had just flown in from a rainbow, and on her way, spotted an animal friend who needed help. It was Diana Dingo. She had a thorn in her foot and couldn't pull it out. Now normally Katie and Caroline would be afraid of dingoes, but at Bunyip Creek all the animals had respect for one another, and the dingoes had decided that they could just as well live on insects, slugs and worms rather than killing the larger animals.

Katie

We must help Diana. Where is she?

Caroline

Down by the creek, near the big rock.

Katie

Come, Caroline. You fly ahead, and I'll come as fast as I can.

Narrator

The two animals made their way to the creek, where they found Diana, lying down and in much pain. She was licking her foot.

Katie

Hello Diana. Would you like some help?

Diana

Yes I would!

Narrator

Katie found an old paper cup at the edge of the creek and filled it with water. She brought it to Diana and poured the cool water over her foot.

Diana

That feels good.

Katie

Now, Caroline, you pull out the thorn with your strong beak.

Narrator

Caroline tugged at the thorn, and in a moment she had it out.

Katie

Now it's my turn to help. I'm going to get some eucalyptus oil from these gum leaves and gently put it on your sore paw, so that it gets better quickly.

Narrator

Katie very gently rubbed on the eucalyptus oil, so as not to hurt Diana.

Caroline

I'm so glad we could help you, Diana. All the animals at Bunyip Creek like to help one another whenever we can. Goodbye, and have a nice day.

Narrator

Now just then Charlie and Charity came along. Can you guess where they had just been? Yes, the King's Garden. They had been to the special fruit tree and today they had brought back the fruit of kindness. They hung the kindness fruit carefully on the gum tree. Katie and Caroline told them all about Diana dingo and the thorn in her foot.

Charlie

Do you know what you have just done? You have just taught us all about kindness and gentleness. They are fruits of the spirit, and servants of the King should all have these fruits. Where's Kanga Joe?

I think we need to call a meeting of all the animals to tell them about the fruits of kindness and gentleness.

Narrator

Charlie picked a fresh young gum leaf from a tree. He folded the gum leaf in half and blew into it to make a loud trumpet sound. Soon all the animals were around the gum tree and Charlie and Charity showed the new fruits they had brought back from the King's Garden...kindness and gentleness.

All

Wow! Look at those new fruits!

Narrator

Diana was very thankful for the kindness shown by Katie and Caroline. Let's see if the animals can tell us a bit more about the fruits of kindness and gentleness...

Kindness is...

- treating others with special care
- thinking about how other people feel
- doing special things for others

Gentleness is...

- being loving and kind
- considering the feelings of others
- treating others with care

6: The Special Message Delivery

Fruit of the Spirit: faithfulness

Narrator

Charlie and Charity were enjoying a picnic on the bank of Bunyip Creek, when along came Wally Wombat and his friend Billy Bilby.

Charlie

Hi Wally.

Wally

Hello Charlie.

Charity

Hi Billy.

Billy

Hi Charity

Narrator

Now if you don't know what a Bilby is, it's a bit like a large mouse, but with bigger, pointier ears. It hops a bit like a rabbit. You've probably heard of the Easter Bilby. Some people have tried to make him take over from the Easter bunny.

Charlie

I thought it was about time we made a visit to the King's Garden again. How would you two like to come with us, Wally and Billy?

Billy

That's a great idea.

Wally

We've never been to the King's Garden before. How do we get there?

Charity

You just take the key of Salvation, and put on love!

Narrator

Soon the four of them were standing outside the gates. They noticed a piece of paper stuck between two rocks just near the entrance.

Charity

Hey look, Billy! It's a letter for you.

Billy

Let me see. What does it say?

Charity

It's a message from the King. It says that it's nearly Easter and the King has a job for you. He wants you to deliver messages to all the girls and boys.

Charlie

Oh no! Look at this sign. It says that we have to go the long way round because of road works.

Narrator

Now our four friends didn't know it, but the sign had been put there by an enemy of the King. Yes, you guessed it...the snake, who was up to his wicked tricks again. The snake had put road work signs just at the entrance to the King's Garden. Of course, there really were no road works. It was just another trick.

Snake

Hello there. I don't think you really want to go through the gate to the King's Garden.

Charity

Why? Do you know a better way?

Snake

Yessss. I do know a better way. Come with me and I will make things easy for you. Don't you know that the King wants to give you lots of hard work to do? He's asked you to deliver all those messages hasn't he? I can give you a much easier way of delivering messages...*my* messages. And as well, I'll give you a special reward. The reward is a ticket to my fun park.

Billy

That sounds great! Delivering all those messages might be hard work.

Wally

I don't think we should listen to him. You know what the King said. He wants us to deliver *his* messages.

Billy

But we can deliver the King's messages next year. Why don't we try the easy way for this year?

Charlie

It's a hard decision Billy. The easy way does sound good...especially with the reward at the end. I'd love to go to a fun park myself, but I have a bad feeling about all this. Why don't we go to the garden and see if the special tree can help us decide what we should do.

Billy

I think you're right, Charlie. Good-bye Snake. Before we agree to deliver messages, we're first going to the King's Garden.

Snake

You'll be sssso ssssorry....all that hard work... and no reward!

Charlie

Ah...here's the gate. Get your keys ready everyone!

Narrator

At last they were inside the gate. And what a beautiful place it was.

Charity

I think I'd rather be here with the King than go with that snake...even if there is no reward. Let's find that special tree. Over there! Look at all those beautiful fruits...love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. I wonder which fruit can help us.

Billy

I'll try this one. It's called faithfulness. Mmmm delicious. Here...have some everyone.

All

Mmm, delicious.

Billy

You know, I've suddenly realized something. If we had followed the snake, and delivered *his* messages, then we would not be showing faithfulness to the Good King. The King is really depending on me to deliver those messages to the girls and boys. I mustn't let him down. Even if serving the King is more difficult, and even if He doesn't give me a ticket to a fun park, it doesn't matter. Being faithful to Him is the thing that counts.

Charlie

That's right Billy. But you know, there really *is* a reward for serving the King. Already I'm starting to feel His love, joy and peace inside me. It just makes me so happy to be His servant. And I've thought of something else. The Good King has a special reward for all those who serve Him. It's called eternal life.

Wally

What's eternal life, Charlie?

Charlie

It means living forever with the King...even after we get really old and die, part of us will live forever here in this garden with the King... and we will have His love, joy and peace forever!

Billy

Come on everyone! Let's go to the King right away and get those messages. The King is depending on me!

Narrator

And that's just what they did. Billy collected the King's messages and the four of them returned to Bunyip Creek, each carrying a sack of messages. That Easter, all the girls and boys of Bunyip Creek received a special message from the King, delivered while they were

sleeping, by Billy Bilby. Maybe you know the special message already. It's found in John 3:16...

Charity

For God loved the world so much that He sent His only Son, so that whoever believed in Him should not die, but have eternal life."

Narrator

God wants us not only to be faithful to others, but to be faithful to Him too. Now let's see who knows what faithfulness is...

Faithfulness is ...

- sticking up for your friend
- staying with someone and not leaving them
- being loyal
- being a true friend

7: The fabulous sweets

Fruit of the Spirit: goodness

Narrator

Kanga Joe was practicing some juggling. Sometimes Emily Emu gave him some of her eggs, and Kanga would entertain the other animals with a little juggling show now and again. His assistant is Wally Wombat. Here are Kanga and Wally to say 'hi'.

Kanga

Hi everyone.

Wally

Hi everyone.

Kanga

You're such a faithful friend, Wally. I can always depend on you. Come on. Let's show everyone our routine. (applause)
Now let's try the egg balancing act again...
O no, Wally. You've dropped the eggs and smashed them!

Wally:

Sorry Kanga. I didn't mean to.

Kanga Joe

It's alright, Wally. I'm not going to lose my temper because I've just been to the King's Garden and picked some special fruit. Have a look at this!

G-O-O-D-N-E-S-S. And do you know what I learned from the King's garden? Goodness is just doing the right thing. That's what the Good King wants. He wants us to be good just as He is. Why don't we go and find Charlie and Charity and we'll all go to the King's Garden together!

Wally

Good idea!

Kanga

Hey Charlie and Charity! Do you think you could take us to the King's garden?

Charlie

Do you remember what to do to get there?

Kanga

Yes! Take the key of Life, and 1,2,3, Put on love! Come on. Let's go!

(magical sound – tinkling bells)

Charlie

Well, here we are at the gates. But look! There's someone new. I haven't seen him before.

Charity

It looks like a snake. Excuse me sir. Are you a snake?

Snake

y..e..ssssss. I sssupposse I am. I'm here to tell you that you don't need to go to this garden. There's a much better garden. You can do whatever you like there. Look in my fabulouss ssurprise ssac. I'll show you some of the goodies that are there. Put your hand in and sssee what you can find. Take whatever you want.

Kanga

OK. I love surprises. I'd love to put my paw in that sack.. Let's see...I'll feel around a bit. Ah...here's something interesting...It's a bag of lollies, with a sign on it...

"Eat these sweets, so nice and yummy,
All you can to fill your tummy.
No need to be good and follow the rule
Eating sweets is really cool."

Charity

Don't listen to him, Kanga Joe. Don't you remember what the King taught us about self-control? Eating a whole bag of lollies at once is just too much.

Kanga

But I love lollies.

Snake

Well, come with me, and I will give you lollies for FREE!

Kanga

You three go to the King's Garden. I'm going to get the lollies.

Charity

But Kanga! You can't go with the snake! Oh no! He's gone!

Charlie

We'll have to rescue him. Have you two got any ideas?

Charity

We could go into the Garden and ask the wise old owl what to do.

Charlie

That's a great idea. Come on. Let's go!

Charity

Look. There's Mr. Owl over there.

Charlie

Mr. Owl, we've got this problem. Our best friend, Kanga Jo, has been tempted by the wicked snake to go with him, all because of a bag of lollies!

Owl

Who..who-oo. Take this guide book with you and it will show you what to do.

Charlie and Charity

Thanks Mr. Owl.

Charlie

Look! It says, "The King's Guide Book, the Bible. Let's see if we can find something in it to help Kanga Joe.

Charity

Ah, here we are... "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Galatians 5:22"

Goodness...That means doing the right thing...Following the snake is not good at all.

Charlie

And self-control...eating all those lollies is not having self-control. That's what Kanga Joe needs. He needs the fruit of goodness and self-control. Let's go and pick the fruits of goodness and self-control and take them to Kanga Joe! There's the tree over there.

Charity

Now we've got the fruits, we've got to find Kanga Joe.

Charlie

Look! Here's a trail of lolly wrappers dropped by Kanga Joe. Let's follow it. Along here, past the trees, and over there I can see a cave. And there's a sign that says "Snake's Hollow. Free lollies."

Charity

I'm not going in there.

Charlie

Maybe we can call Kanga Joe and he might hear us.

Charlie and Charity

Kanga, Kanga, we've got something for you....fruits from the King's Garden.

Kanga (muffled voice)

Is that you Charlie and Charity and Wally? OOOOh....help me! I've got a tummy ache... and a toothache. I should have gone with you in the first place. Thank you for coming to save me from the wicked snake. You're such good friends.

Charlie

What about the snake?

Kanga

He's asleep. If I'm really quiet I can creep past him without waking him up.

Charlie

I hope he's quiet.

Charity

Look! Here he is. Well done, Kanga. You made it! Here's the fruit from the King's Garden.

Kanga (voice no longer muffled)

Mmm. That's the most delicious fruit I've ever tasted....even better than the lollies. And do you know what? My toothache is getting better, and so is my tummy ache!

Charlie

Come on. Let's get out of here before the snake finds us.

Snake

Hey! Come back!

Charlie

Oh no! He's seen us. Let's get out of here.

Kanga (panting)

I sure have learned a lot about goodness and self-control today.

Charity

Yes, but you did learn the hard way. It's much better to obey the King in the first place and follow the advice in His book.

Kanga

You're right Charity. If I had gone straight through the gate to the King's Garden, and not followed the snake, I wouldn't have been in so much trouble.

Charity

And when we follow the King's son, Jesus, we belong to Him. He helps us to have goodness in our lives, as we become more like Him.

Narrator

Who remembers what goodness is?

Goodness is...

- obeying God's word
- doing the right thing

8: The Most Delicious Red Apples

Fruit of the Spirit: self-control

Narrator

Down by Bunyip Creek, growing on the bank was an apple tree. Now this apple tree hadn't been planted by anyone. In fact it may have been planted by Caroline Cockatoo, who had the habit of eating apples all the way down to the seeds, and then taking out the seeds, which to her, were the most delicious part. It could have been that Caroline was flying over Bunyip Creek one year with a mouthful of seeds, when one dropped out of her mouth and fell into some soft soil on the creek bank. Caroline doesn't remember this time exactly, but that is how the animals think the tree got there. Anyway, the tree grew the most delicious small, red apples, which were shared by all the members of Bunyip Creek, including Charlie and Charity.

It was a beautiful day at Bunyip Creek. The sun was warm, and all the animals were happy. Emily Emu was out for a morning walk, when she came across a whole tree of ripe red apples! Now Emily just loved apples. She reached out her beak and picked one.

Emily Emu

Mmm...delicious! I could eat at least 20. Hello Wally? Do you think I could eat 20 apples at once?

Wally

Too many, too many!

Narrator

Just then Charlie and Charity came along. Seeing all those apples made them think of fruit...and thinking of fruit, they both had the same idea.

Charity

Why don't we go back to the King's Garden! We've got our key of Salvation. All we have to do is to put on love. Come on. Let's Go!

Narrator

Just inside the gate, the children saw an apple tree. They had not seen it before. It looked just like the one back at Bunyip Creek, and it was laden with ripe red apples. The children were starting to feel hungry now. They reached out and picked one each. The apples were delicious...even better than the ones at Bunyip Creek. They wanted to stay and eat apples forever, but then remembered why they had come.

The children knew their way very well now to the special tree. They read the names of all the different fruits...love, joy peace, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Charlie

I wonder what self-control is?

Charity

I think I know. Now that I'm here, I seem to understand things so much better. Self-control is something the King wants us to have. It means not being greedy or selfish. You see, eating lots and lots apples at once would be very greedy of me, and if we were back at Bunyip Creek, it would also be selfish to eat so many apples because there wouldn't be many left for the other animals.

Charlie

I've just had another thought. Having self-control can also be controlling your anger. You know, when you feel so angry that you want to hit someone, or even bash the door down. That's not what the King wants. He wants us to think of Him, and think kind thoughts. Why don't we go back to Bunyip Creek and show the animals this fruit. I think it will help them.

Narrator

So off they went, with their special fruit. Back at Bunyip Creek they found Emily Emu and Wally Wombat still at the apple tree.

Charity

I hope Emily hasn't eaten all the apples. We've been away for ages.

Narrator

But there hadn't been time for Emily to eat too many apples, because the children had really only been gone a few seconds in Bunyip Creek time. The children showed the animals the fruit of self-control, and hung it up on the old gum tree. Charity explained what self-control actually meant. Emily got the idea immediately.

Emily

I like shiny brass buttons, but I know I must have self-control, and try not to pick them off people's jackets...And I have to remember not to pick sandwiches out of people's hands when they're having a picnic.

Charlie

And I have to remember not to eat too much sugary food that rots my teeth. I also have to have self-control with my temper. That means, when I feel angry at someone, I must still speak kindly to them.

Charity

That's right. It's because of self-control that all the animals in Bunyip Creek are kind to each other. Everyone thinks about putting others first, and share special things like apples.

Self-control is...

- Not losing your temper
- Knowing when to stop
- Not being greedy
- Not giving into temptation