

# The Story of Granny Smith

Granny stirred the pot on the stove, singing quietly to herself as she worked.

"Autumn is my favourite time of year," she thought. "There's always so much to do... berries to pick, apple pies to make, and of course, crab apple jam."

"That should be enough cooking," she said, as she removed a very large pot of crab apple jam from the stove. Granny then proceeded to fill two dozen crystal clear jars with the beautiful red crab apple jam.

"Now for the labelling," she said.

On each of the jars Granny proudly placed her own personal label...

GRANNY MARIA ANN SMITH  
CRAB APPLE JAM  
4th April 1902

Of course there was now the cleaning up to be done. Granny gathered up the scraps. She put these in the barrel with the remains of the crab apples.

"All good for compost," said Granny. "Nothing to be wasted."

Granny threw the contents of the barrel on to the compost heap and continued cleaning up.

Months went by...

Granny gave no more thought to the crab apples. However, when Spring arrived, Granny noticed a small seedling growing out of the compost heap.

"Looks to be a small apple tree," she said, "just in the place where I threw those crab apples last Autumn."

Granny carefully transferred the seedling to some good soil in a protected part of the garden. As years went by, Granny watched the tiny seedling develop into a fine apple tree. Then one Summer she noticed some small green apples on the tree. By Autumn they had grown into large green apples, quite unlike any she had ever seen.

The story of Granny Smith is a true one. The large green apples were the delicious Granny Smith apples which are now world famous. The discovery of the new variety of apples near Sydney many years ago is something for which all Australians are very grateful. The story reminds us too that something good can come from something that looks useless. Just as new life can come from a seed which is thrown away, Jesus can give new life to people.

God said that all people need a new start. At some stage in their life, every person needs to put their old life behind them and make a new start with Jesus. Jesus can

forgive us for everything. The new life that Jesus gives us is the beginning of living forever. The Bible calls it eternal life.

*God is Life - Themes for Christian Studies 4*

## **Activities – Granny Smith**

### **PART A**

1. How do we know that Granny liked making jam?
2. What time of year did she make jam?
3. What are crab apples?
4. What did Granny do with the scraps and peelings?
5. What colour were the new kind of apples?
6. What is the name given to this kind of apple?
7. Where did this happen?
8. Find out what John 17:3 says about eternal life.
9. Write a sentence about each picture on the next page.

### **PART B**

#### **God is life**

God has always been there. God will always be there. This means He is eternal. He has always lived, and will always live. By giving our lives to Jesus, we can live with Him forever. We too can have eternal life. The story of Granny Smith reminds us of something new coming from something \_\_\_\_\_. When we become a Christian, God gives us a \_\_\_\_\_ life.

Missing words: new old

#### **How can I give my life to Jesus?**

I can ask Him to forgive me for my \_\_\_\_\_.

I can invite Him to live in my \_\_\_\_\_.

I can be His follower, and do the things He wants me to \_\_\_\_\_.

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