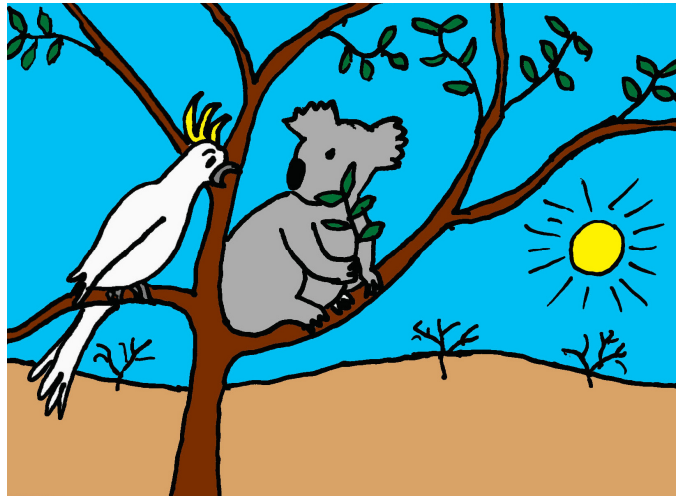


# Kanga Joe

## Story 3

### The Drought

*Fruit of the Spirit: peace*



www.beaconmedia.com.au

1

#### ***Peace is ...***

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

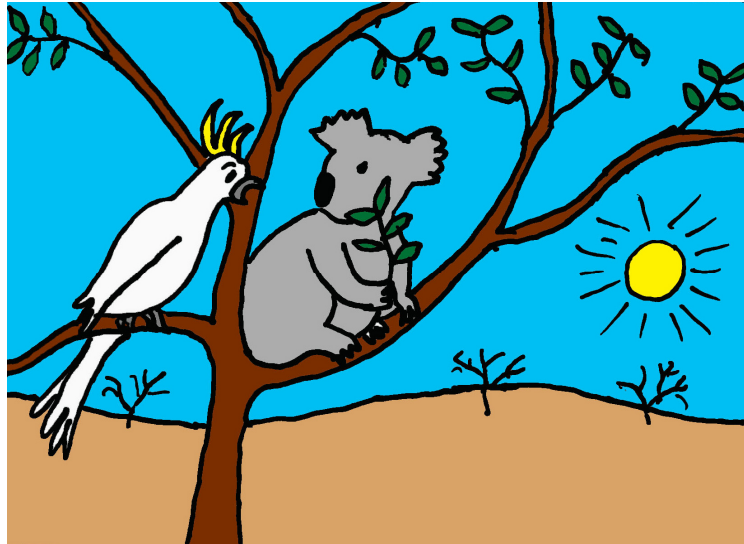
Katie Koala was so worried. There had been no rain for weeks and soon all the animals of the bush would be running out of food and water.

"Don't worry, Katie," said Caroline Cockatoo. "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."

www.beaconmedia.com.au

2

"Oh thanks, Caroline," said Katie. "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."



---

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.

"I suppose Caroline is right," thought Katie. 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."

Then she remembered something...

"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?"

"There's a bit of water left in a water hole at the east end of the creek, Katie," said Caroline, "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."

Caroline and Katie hurried off to find the other animals.

"Kanga Joe," they called, "...water to be found at the east end of the creek...tell the others...Emily Emu...water to be found at the east end of the creek ...tell the others...Mrs. Possum...water to be found at the east end of the creek...tell the others."

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

"I've got an idea, Katie," said Caroline. "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?"

Just then Charlie and Charity came by. They told Katie and Caroline what they must do.

"This is what you do," explained Charlie. "Take the key of life, and 1, 2, 3, put on love!"

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

"Over there," said Caroline. "There it is! I'll go ahead and perch on its branches."

Charlie, Charity and Caroline came running along. They stared at the beautiful tree.

"I'd forgotten how beautiful the fruits were," said Charity. "Nine of them altogether..."

love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

Caroline picked the fruit called *peace*.

"You know," said Charlie, "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!"

"Let's take this fruit to the crystal river and see if we can get some water for the animals," said Katie. "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."

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.

"Over here," called Caroline. "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 thought that this was a good idea because she was used to carrying a baby on her back, and she felt sure that she could carry a melon. 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.

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



---

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.

"It's water from the crystal river in the King's Garden," explained Charlie.

"And we have a special message from the King," said Charity. "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."



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

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

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.

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

