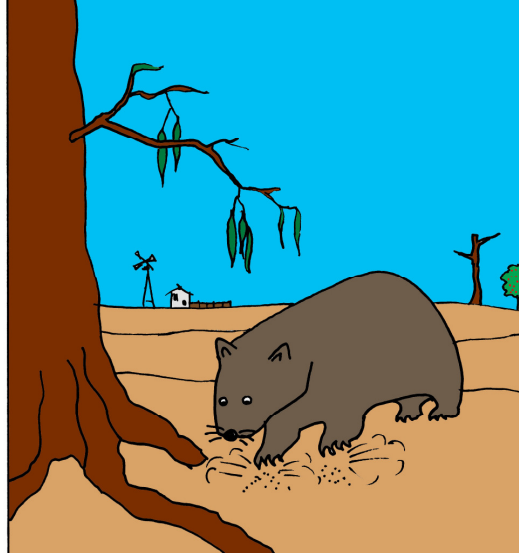


Kanga Joe Story 4

The treasure hunt

Fruit of the Spirit: patience



Patience is...

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

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

"Hello Katie," said Wally. "Do you know where I can get some fresh roots to eat? You don't? How boring. I'll have to munch on some of this grass until I can find some."

"Hey look at this sign: Yummy roots to be found hidden in the ground. All you need is patience!"

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

"No," said Katie.



"O well. I'll just go and have a rest near this tree over here," sighed Wally. Then Katie noticed something.

"Look! 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 and joy."

Just then, Charlie and Charity came along.

"Please Charlie and Charity," asked Wally, "could you take me to the special tree so that I can get some fruit?"

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

"I remember," said Charlie. "It's 1, 2, 3, put on love, and take the key of life. Come on. Let's go."

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.

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

"and more joyful," put in Charlie. "Look here's a fruit that says 'PATIENCE'.

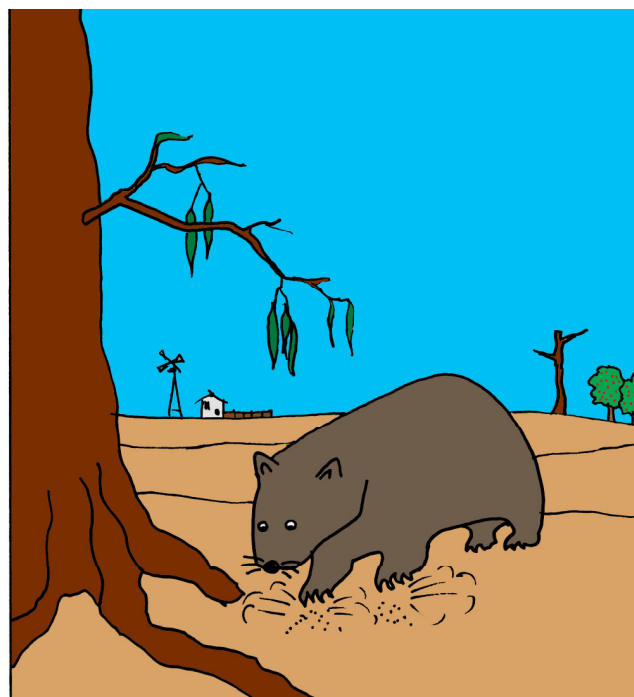
"I wonder," said Wally, "if I pick patience, then perhaps I will understand what patience is....Ah...got it! I remember that note I found. It said, *'yummy roots to be found, hidden in the ground.'*

"Come on Wally," said Charlie, "Let's go on a treasure hunt!"

Wally scratched around. "Scratch, scratch, scratch. Here's one! And I've found another one!"

Charity and Charlie were so pleased that Wally had found his yummy roots.

"Now I know what patience is," said Wally. "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."

"And cleaning my room," said Charity. "You have to keep working at it with patience until it's done."

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 some of the things we need to have patience for?

