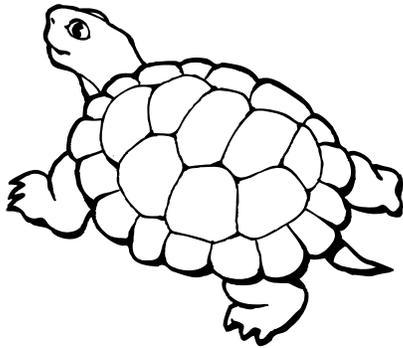


# TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

## TEMKIT'S MISSION:

To provide Bible based, true reading material for children and youth.

Year 3 - 2nd Quarter - Issue #6



### CREATION CORNER

#### Whittier and His Pets

**“A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast:  
but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel.”**

**Proverbs 12:10**

John Greenleaf Whittier was a sincere and noble soul who hated everything that was evil. Like many other great and good men, he spent his childhood in the country. The farm on which his father raised such fine corn was rocky and swampy. The boys had to work hard to get enough from the stubborn soil to feed themselves. Greenleaf had to work too hard for his delicate health. The winters in Massachusetts were very severe, and to Greenleaf underclothing was almost unknown. He suffered all his life from these privations and from attempting work that was beyond his strength.

Greenleaf made a friend of every living creature on the farm. He had a little bantam rooster that liked to perch on his master's shoulder. He also had a parrot named Charlie. He had a mocking bird named David, that used to call to him in the sweetest tones, “Whittier’ ! Whittier’ !” This bird would fly on to the young poet's head to receive a

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big fat grasshopper that Greenleaf always had for him. The little pet squirrel, Friday, enjoyed gnawing the buttons off his master's coat.

Greenleaf could not bear to see any animal suffer. Once some cruel boys hung a poor, harmless turtle from the branch of a tree, and left it there. Greenleaf waited till the boys had all gone home, and then he went at night and released the turtle.

Greenleaf did not have so many dogs as Sir Walter Scott had, but he was very fond of his big shepherd dog, which he called Robin Adair. Jackanapes was the name of his frisky little dog. Then there were the two oxen, Buck and Butler. Greenleaf and his brother often sat upon the heads of these fine old oxen while they lay at rest under the trees at the top of the hill back of the house. Surely this was a great throne for two boys!

When he was a little boy, he wrote verses on the beam of his mother's weaving loom, and he filled his slate with rimes. One day, his teacher lent him a book of poems. After reading this book he wrote:

“I saw through all familiar things;

The romance underlying,

The joys and grief's that plume the wings

Of Fancy, skyward flying.”

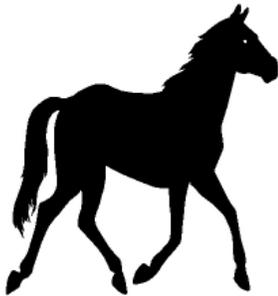
This proved to be the real beginning of his work as a poet.

When Greenleaf was eighteen, he wrote some verses which his sister Mary thought good enough to be printed in the newspaper. Without saying anything to her brother, she copied them neatly and sent them to the editor. One day later, a neighbor who had brought the mail, tossed the newspaper to Greenleaf as he was working in the field. The boy opened the paper, and there to his surprise in "The Poets' Corner" he saw his own verses in print.

The editor's name was William Lloyd Garrison, a man with whom Greenleaf afterwards worked against slavery. He was only a few years older than Greenleaf. He was so interested in the young poet that he drove out to the Whittier home to urge Greenleaf's father to send him to college. He found the bashful lad crawling out from under the barn where he had gone to get the eggs of a hen that had stolen away her nest.

Two years later, Greenleaf studied at the academy in Haverhill, Massachusetts. He paid his expenses by working at the shoemaker's trade. He later became one of America's finest poets.

Greenleaf learned many things from his animal and bird friends. Kindness and consideration for all living things is rewarded by friendships the cruel and selfish never get to enjoy. = ^ .. ^ =



## POEM

### Catching the Colt

With forehead star, and silver tail,  
And three white feet to match,  
The gay, half-broken sorrel colt  
Which one of us could catch?

"I can!" said Dick, "I'm good for that;"  
He slowly shook his empty hat;  
"She'll think 'tis full of oats," said he;  
"Stand back, and she will come to me."

Her head the shy, proud creature raised,  
As 'mid the daisy flowers she grazed;  
Then down the hill, across the brook,  
Delaying oft, her way she took;

Then changed her pace, and, moving quick,  
She hurried on and came to Dick.  
"Ha! ha!" he cried, "I've caught you, Beck;"  
And put the halter round her neck.

But soon there came another day,  
And, eager for a ride,  
"I'll go and catch the colt again,  
I can," said Dick, with pride.

So up the stony pasture lane,  
And up the hill he trudged again;  
And when he saw the colt, as slow  
He shook his old hat to and fro,  
"She'll think 'tis full of oats," he thought,  
"And I shall have her quickly caught."

"Beck! Beck!" he called; and at the sound,  
The restless beauty looked around;  
Then made a quick, impatient turn,  
And galloped off among the fern.

And when beneath a tree she stopped  
And leisurely some clover cropped,  
Dick followed after, but in vain;  
His hand was just upon her mane,  
When off she flew, as flies the wind,  
And, panting, he pressed on behind.

Down through the brake, the brook across,  
O'er bushes, thistles, mounds of moss,  
Round and around the place they passed,  
Till, breathless, Dick sat down at last;

Threw by, provoked, his empty hat,  
"The colt," he said, "remembers that!  
There's always trouble from deceit,  
I'll never try again to cheat."  
Marian Douglass.



## TRUE-STORY-TIME

### How an African Boy Succeeded

Every child knows that when the Tower of Babel was built, the language of the inhabitants of the world was so confused that they could not understand one another.

But the Bible does not tell us when the people were divided into races of different colors. It must have been away back in the early days of the world that the white, black, brown, yellow, and red races began.

However this may have been, we know now that Africa is the home of the black race; and we know that all the black people now living are the children of that race whose first home was in Africa.

More than three hundred years ago, some cruel men sailed to Africa and forced some of these poor black people on to their ships. Then they sailed away with them far across the broad Atlantic to the United States. Here they sold them as slaves to work on the plantations.

How terrible to be dragged away from home and friends, and taken to a land so distant that they could never, never return! Year after year, shiploads of these people were brought to this country and sold as slaves.

For many years, these people were slaves. Most of them worked in the great cotton fields and on sugar plantations in the southern part of the United States. In pictures of these fields you will usually see some black people at work.

One of these little black slave boys was named Booker. How he came to have such a queer name no one seems to know; but it was the only name he knew anything about. Booker lived with his mother in Virginia. It was about this time that many of the white people of the United States said it was not right to buy and sell men and women and children and make them slaves. Finally, a great war between the North and the South broke out over this question. In history this war is called the Civil War.

One morning during the war, Booker was awakened to find his mother kneeling on the earth floor of their little cabin, praying that Lincoln and the Northern armies might be successful, and that she and her children might be free. A few years after this, the war ended, and all the black people in the United States were freed. Then Booker went with his mother to West Virginia.

This little black boy did not know how to read or write, but he had a strong desire to learn. He

could not go to school during the daytime, because, although he was only six years of age, he had to work. But every evening, instead of spending time in play or in idleness, he spent it in study. Little by little he learned the alphabet, and after much patient effort he learned to read.

In the town where Booker lived there was no good school that he could go to. So, at the age of thirteen years, he decided to go away from home to the Hampton School because he had heard that black boys would be allowed to study there. He had but little money, and it was about five hundred miles to Hampton.

At last, after a number of days, by walking and by begging rides in railway trains and in wagons, he reached a large city eighty-two miles from Hampton. He was tired and hungry and without money, and he felt strange in such a large city.

Not knowing what else to do, he walked the streets till after midnight. Then he found a place in the street where the board sidewalk was elevated, and he crept under the sidewalk and lay down on the cold ground to sleep. Do you think he was discouraged? No, not he! It takes courage to make great men, and this little black boy was one day to be a great man.

At last, he reached the school, and as he looked at the building, how happy he was! He found the head mistress and told her he had come to school. She was not so sure about that, here he was poor and penniless, why should she accept him as a student?

She decided to test him first. Sternly she spoke to him and pointing him to a broom and dust cloth, she ordered him to sweep the classroom. Now Booker might have said, "I came to go to school, not to work as a slave again!"

But he didn't. In his heart he felt that he was being tested. Well he would show the School Mistress what he was made of! She wanted the room swept – he would sweep it the best ever!

And so he really did sweep it. He was not satisfied with giving it one sweeping. Three times he swept the room, and four times he dusted it. But when he had finished, not a particle of dust or dirt was to be found.

When the school Mistress returned she was wearing a white glove and she went here and there in the room checking for dust. Nowhere could she find a speck!

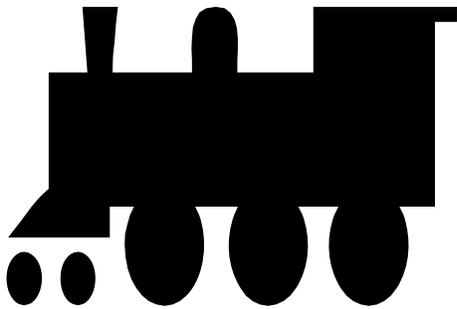
"Well young man", she said, "If this is how you intend to do your lessons, you can stay and study

here at Hampton.”

He learned his lessons with the same care and thoroughness with which he had swept the room, and it was this care and thoroughness in every little thing that helped to make him the great man he afterwards became.

When this boy became a man, he established a school in Tuskegee, Alabama. At first, the schoolhouse consisted of an old kitchen, a stable, and an old henhouse. But even this did not discourage him. He said that he would some day have a school such as the President of the United States would be glad to visit. And he succeeded. Thousands of other black boys in the South, who longed for an education, found it in Booker's school.

The same God who prepared Booker T. Washington to do so much good will help any person who will pray for God's help and guidance to earnestly, and faithfully, and perseveringly do their very best every day. = ^ .. ^ =



## STORY LESSON

### The Praying Engineer

One winter, many years ago, there was a good deal of religious interest in a certain Midwestern town, and among those who joined the church was a little fellow twelve years of age, named Allen. His mother was a widow. Four years before, she had moved from their home in Vermont to this town in Wisconsin.

On the Sabbath evening of the day when he joined the church, Allen was sitting in the twilight with his mother.

“Allen, tell me what led you to want to be a Christian. Was it your home teaching, your lessons in the Sabbath school, the regular preaching of the pastor, or has it all come through the influence of the revival meetings?”

Allen looked up into his mother's face.

“Mamma, it was none of these. Do you remember when we were coming from Vermont to

live here four years ago, that I wanted to go on the engine and ride with the engineer? You were afraid to let me, till the conductor, whom you knew well, told you that the engineer was a remarkable man, and that I would be just as safe on the engine with him as in the parlor car with you.”

“I remember that very well,” said his mother.

“Then,” continued Allen, “you allowed me to ride in the engine, where I was to stay till you or the conductor came for me. When we were about ready to start from the station where I first got in the engine, the engineer knelt down for just a little bit, and then got up and started his locomotive. I asked him many questions about its different parts and about the places and things, which we passed by, and he was very patient in answering. Soon we stopped at another station, and just before we started he knelt down again. As he did this often, I tried to see what he was doing. Finally, after we had passed several stations, I made up my mind to ask him.

“‘My little lad, do you ever pray?’ he asked me very earnestly.

“‘Oh yes, sir! I pray every morning and evening,’ I replied.

“‘Well, my dear boy,’ said he, ‘when I kneel down, I pray. God has allowed me to hold a very responsible place here. There are, perhaps, two hundred lives now on this train entrusted to my care. A little mistake on my part, a little failure to do all my duty, a little neglect, a little inattention to signals, might send all or many of these two hundred souls into eternity. So at every station I kneel for just a moment, and ask the Master to help me, and to keep the many lives He has put into my hands from all harm till we get to the next station. All the years that I have been on this engine, He has helped me, and not a single human being of the thousands that have ridden on my train has been harmed. I have never had an accident.’

“I have never before mentioned what he did or said, but almost daily I have thought about him, and resolved that I would be a Christian too.”

Remember, readers, that we too can ask for God's blessing and help in whatever tasks or problems we are faced with. = ^ .. ^ =



**Year 3: 2nd Quarter:  
"GIVE US A KING"  
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 6:  
"KING DAVID"**

This series of Bible Story Lessons is about Israel's Kings. For our Bible lessons we are going to use the King James Version of the Bible. Just like the boys and girls used to use to learn to read from in the pioneer days. There will be some texts to look up for each day and you should practice your memory verse until you can say it without looking. Don't forget to learn the text too.

**MEMORY VERSE: "Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight." Proverbs 12:22**

**Sunday**

**Text: 2 Samuel 1:4 "And David said unto him, How went the matter? I pray thee, tell me. And he answered, That the people are fled from the battle, and many of the people also are fallen and dead; and Saul and Jonathan his son are dead also."**

David and his men returned from rescuing their wives and families and they worked to restore their homes at Ziklag. They were anxiously awaiting news from the battle between the Philistines and Israel.

Soon a man came to them saying he had come from the battle. David asked for news and was told that Israel had lost the battle and Saul and Jonathan were both dead. The Amalakite bringing the news thought that David would be happy about this and so he told a foolish lie thinking to get himself a reward.

He told David that he had killed Saul. This did not please David at all. He tore his clothes and mourned for Saul and David. Then he had the man

executed for his claim to have killed king Saul.

David mourned sadly for king Saul and especially for his dear friend prince Jonathan. He even wrote a sad song telling of his sorrow. You can read it in 2 Samuel 1:19-27. Here are a few lines of it:

"The beauty of Israel is slain upon thy high places: how are the mighty fallen! Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice."

After mourning for Saul and Jonathan, David was not sure what to do. He sent for the priest and had him ask the Lord if he should return to Israel. He said to return. He asked where to go and the Lord told him to go to Hebron.

**Thought** - Lies always come back on us sooner or later.

**Monday**

**Text: 2 Samuel 2:3,4 "And his men that were with him did David bring up, every man with his household: and they dwelt in the cities of Hebron. And the men of Judah came, and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah. And they told David, saying, That the men of Jabeshgilead were they that buried Saul."**

At Hebron the men of Judah anointed David to be king over Judah. The other tribes of Israel however did not agree.

The men of the city of Jabeshgilead did a brave deed. The Philistines had cut off the heads of Saul and Jonathan and taken them to their king, but the bodies had been nailed up on a wall to be mocked. A group of these men sneaked into the Philistine city at night and rescued the bodies and brought them back and gave them a decent burial with honor.

When David learned of this he told them how glad he was for their brave deed.

David did not try to force himself as king over all of Israel. But trouble still came. Abner, Saul's captain of the army got one of the other sons of Saul, called Ishbosheth, and declared him king.

Abner had been so close with Saul in their hunting of David that he had come to think a lot like Saul. Also he never got over the time when David told him off for not guarding the king better. He wanted revenge.

For a while there was a lot of fighting between Israel and Judah, Ishbosheth was not any good for a king and finally Abner became angry and came

over to give his services to David. But sadly, Joab the captain of David's army, killed him by trickery.

David mourned for him and gave him an honorable burial. This way the people saw that David was not wanting to do any of these false and wicked deeds.

When two men killed Ishbosheth as he was resting on his bed, and brought his head to David, thinking to be rewarded. He Told them how wicked it was to kill a man in such a sneaky way and had them executed and held a funeral for Ishbosheth.

A lot of sad things happened, but after a while, all of Israel accepted David as king. If David would have always trusted in the Lord to protect him from Saul, and had not lied and gone his own way from time to time, he probably would have became king sooner and with much less trouble.

**Thought** – God tells us never to seek revenge. Abner's wish for revenge caused much trouble and finally destroyed him.

## Tuesday

**Text: 2 Samuel 5:3,4 “So all the elders of Israel came to the king to Hebron; and king David made a league with them in Hebron before the LORD: and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years.”**

Finally David was king over all Israel.

David wanted a better city to be the capital of Israel and so he chose what became Jerusalem. The enemies of Israel held it, but by clever strategy David and his men captured it and made it his capital.

Some of the kings of other nations honored David and made agreements with him. Hiram the king of the rich city of Tyre, sent cedar logs and made a lovely palace for David to live in.

David began to deal with the Philistines that were still troubling the people. Each time he would think to go out and fight them, he would ask the Lord if he should go and the Lord would tell him what to do.

Finally, when the Philistines were come out to fight again, the Lord told David to wait where there was a lot of mulberry trees and when he heard the sound of wind in them, he was to attack as the Lord would fight for them.

He did this and the Philistines were really beaten and driven away. They did not trouble Israel for a

long time after that.

**Thought** – Jerusalem had been where the Priest Melchizedek had lived in the time of Abraham.

## Wednesday

**Text: 2 Samuel 6:2,3 “And David arose, and went with all the people that were with him from Baale of Judah, to bring up from thence the ark of God, whose name is called by the name of the LORD of hosts that dwelleth between the cherubims. And they set the ark of God upon a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab that was in Gibeah: and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drave the new cart.”**

Now David wanted very much to bring the Ark of the Lord up to Jerusalem. He made special arrangements and invited 30,000 of Israel's leaders to come. He made a great celebration and the high priest placed the ark on a new cart drawn by oxen. Two sons of the high priest, Uzzah and Ahio, drove the cart.

They started on their way to Jerusalem with great excitement. There was a lot of music and rejoicing. It was a big celebration to honor the Lord.

Then when they came to a certain place, one of the oxen stumbled a bit and it rocked the Ark on the cart. The son of the High Priest, Uzzah, put out his hand to touch to Ark to steady it. Instantly he was struck dead.

The music stopped, in silent horror the people looked at what had happened. King David was afraid and upset with God. He would not go any further but the ark was carried into the house of Obedom the Gittite.

In sadness the party broke up and the King and the people returned to their homes. What had happened? Why had Uzzah been killed? These thoughts troubled David greatly.

The priests looked into the books of the laws of the sanctuary and found that only the sons of Kohath, were to move the ark and they were to carry it, by its rods, on their shoulders, always reverently covered. Even they were never to touch it.

When David learned this, he asked how the man was who had offered his home as a place to keep the ark. When he found out that he was being blessed, he decided to bring the ark to Jerusalem, but this time it would be done properly with respect

for God's laws and instructions.

God can accept no partial obedience, no lax way of treating His commandments. By the judgment upon Uzzah, He wanted to impress upon all Israel, the importance of giving strict obedience to His laws. Thus the death of that one man, by leading the people to repentance, might prevent the necessity of inflicting judgments upon thousands.

You see, even though we might have a big celebration and really think we are honoring God, if we are not worshipping Him as He has said to do it, if we are not obeying all of His instructions and laws, He is not pleased with us. He cannot bless us unless we do things his way.

The idea of doing 'your own thing' in serving and worshipping God is a foolish idea, and is not accepted by God. If we are not willing to learn how He wants things done and cheerfully obey Him in doing it that way, He is not pleased with us and will not even hear our prayers! The only prayer he will hear from those who disobey Him is the prayer of repentance and confession.

**Thought** – You will remember that when the Philistines took the Ark of God, they returned it on a cart pulled by two cows. They were not harmed because they didn't know any better. The sons of the High Priest had no excuse not to know better.

### Thursday

**Text: 2 Samuel 6:18,19 “And as soon as David had made an end of offering burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts. And he dealt among all the people, even among the whole multitude of Israel, as well to the women as men, to every one a cake of bread, and a good piece of flesh, and a flagon of wine. So all the people departed every one to his house.”**

When David went out again to have the Ark moved to Jerusalem, it was a very different scene. Instead of wild celebration similar to how the heathen worship their Gods, it was with great respect, reverence and dignity.

Everything was done according to the laws of God. Music was played, but with dignity and solemn joy. Even the king removed his royal robes and marched wearing only the plain white robe of a priest. This was to show to all that he was on the same level as his people on that day, and only the Ark of God was the object to be honored.

There was great joy, but this time it was mixed with respect and reverence. Sacrifices were offered all along the way. And when the ark entered Jerusalem, David danced with joy. This was a sacred type of dancing expressing reverence and joy and not like what we think of as dancing.

After all was finished the King gave a gift of food and grape-juice to each of the people there and they went home with great joy.

**Thought** – The music and dancing in joyful praise to God at the removal of the ark had not the faintest resemblance to the dissipation of modern dancing. The one tended to the remembrance of God and exalted His holy name. The other is a device of Satan to cause men to forget God and to dishonor Him. {PP 707}

### Friday

**Text: 2 Samuel 7:1-3 “And it came to pass, when the king sat in his house, and the LORD had given him rest round about from all his enemies; That the king said unto Nathan the prophet, See now, I dwell in an house of cedar, but the ark of God dwelleth within curtains. And Nathan said to the king, Go, do all that is in thine heart; for the LORD is with thee.**

Now David began to think about something very dear to his heart. He wanted to build a wonderful temple to honor the Lord. He called Nathan the prophet and told him about this idea. Nathan, without asking God about it first, said for David to go ahead as he was sure it would be pleasing to the Lord.

When Nathan was at home that night, the Lord told him in a vision to go back to David and tell him that it was not God's will that David be the one to build this house. David had been a man of war all his life and it was not proper for him to build the temple. Instead, his son who would follow him to the throne, he would build the temple.

Now David listened to the word of the Lord and although he was disappointed, he obeyed. He made plans and gathered material to be ready for his son to build the temple when the time came.

Here we see one of the differences between David and king Saul. He was willing to listen to the words of the Lord, even when they meant he had to change his plans and give up his dearest wishes.

Have you ever wondered why God called David 'a man after my own heart', when we see more sins

and mistakes recorded that David did, than that King Saul ever did? The difference is a big one; David humbly repented, Saul proudly refused to repent.

**Thought** - Those who go to heaven may have committed great sins, look at Peter, and Paul, but they will always have been humble enough to repent and change, turning away from their sins. Those who are proud and stubborn and will blame everybody and everything rather than confess they have done wrong and ask for forgiveness; they will not be saved. = ^ .. ^ =



## SINGING THE PSALMS