

# THE DEVIL AND THE DUCK

An illustration of a young boy with brown hair, wearing a purple long-sleeved shirt and blue overalls, holding a wooden slingshot. To his right is a brown duck with a green leafy sprig in its beak. The title 'THE DEVIL AND THE DUCK' is written in a stylized, colorful font across the top.

There was a little boy visiting his grandparents on their farm. He was given a slingshot to play with out in the woods. He practiced and he practiced, but he could never hit the target. Getting a little discouraged, he headed back for dinner. As he was walking back he saw Grandma's pet duck. Just out of impulse, he let the slingshot fly, hit the duck square in the head, and killed it. He was shocked and grieved.



In a panic, he hid the dead duck in the wood pile, only to see his sister watching! Sally had seen it all, but she said nothing. After lunch the next day Grandma said, "Sally, let's wash the dishes." But Sally said, "Grandma, Johnny told me he wanted to help in the kitchen." Then she whispered to him,

"Remember the duck?"



So Johnny did the dishes.

Later that day, Grandpa asked if the children wanted to go fishing and Grandma said, "I'm sorry but I need Sally to help make supper." Sally just smiled and said, "Well that's all right because Johnny told me he wanted to help." She whispered again,

"Remember the duck?"



So Sally went fishing and Johnny stayed to help.

After several days of Johnny doing both his chores and Sally's ...he finally couldn't stand it any longer. He came to Grandma and confessed that he had killed the duck. Grandma knelt down, gave him a hug, and said, "Sweetheart, I know.

You see, I was standing at the window and I saw the whole thing, I was just wondering how long you would let Sally make a slave of you. Hoping you would come tell me yourself, and because I love you, I forgive you."

Thought for the day and every day thereafter?

Whatever is in your past, whatever you have done...  
and the devil keeps throwing it up in your face  
(lying, cheating, debt, fear, bad habits, hatred, anger, bitterness, etc.) ...  
whatever it is...

You need to know that God was standing at the window and He saw the whole thing.....

He has seen your whole life.

He wants you to know that He loves you and that you are forgiven.

He's just wondering how long you will let the devil make a slave of you.

The great thing about God is that when you ask for forgiveness,  
He not only forgives you, but He forgets...  
It is by God's grace and mercy that we are saved.