

The Hermit In The Woods

Key Words: **Glorify**

Key Verse: "Now they know that everything you have given me is from you." *John 17:7*

Old Jack lived in a camper in the woods, and most people left him alone. There were all sorts of stories about Old Jack. Some said he was a wizard, others that he was very wise and holy, but most people thought he was a scrounger living off handouts, never paying any rent.

Richard came across Old Jack at the edge of the woods one day, Richard didn't know whether to run in fear, to hide and tease Jack, or to talk to him. He cautiously approached Old Jack and to his surprise, Old Jack turned out to be a warm, intelligent person with a huge knowledge of wildlife. He showed Richard where birds were nesting, where foxes had their holes, he knew every paw print, and he could identify every birdsong. Richard visited Old Jack regularly, but he only told his parents. Old Jack enjoyed passing his knowledge onto Richard, and it was clear to Richard that Jack's life was very much in tune with God.

One day, Old Jack disappeared. Richard used the skills Jack had taught him to track the old man, but it was no good. When he returned to town, Richard discovered that Old Jack had been taken to a hospital in the city. Richard took his bike, left a note for his mom, and set off for the hospital. It was ten miles away, but he was determined to find Jack. After a long ride, he followed the signs to the hospital. He found Jack very ill with an oxygen mask clamped over his face. Jack's eyes lit up

when he saw Richard and he held Richard's hand tightly. "I'm going to visit you every day until you get better," whispered Richard. The old man gripped his hand even harder and cried.

Richard was very tired by the time he'd ridden home, and his parents were very worried about him, but he insisted on going every day after school. After three weeks Jack was strong enough to leave the hospital. The doctors said it was a miracle. He wasn't fit enough to return to the camper, so Richard's family took him home to be with them. There he became an adopted grandpa to the whole family. He was sure he would never have lived if it hadn't been for Richard and his faithful visiting. "How did you ride all that way on your bike every day?" he asked Richard. "You must have been exhausted."

Richard smiled. "It was easy," he said. "You see, I love you, because you first loved me, and when you love someone, you'd do anything for them. I was determined you wouldn't die, so I just kept coming, to lend you my strength."

Old Jack nodded. "Thank you," he said.

Questions

Why were most children afraid of Old Jack?

What did Jesus tell his disciples about his heavenly Father?

RING	GOOFY	FOLLS	FLOOR
RINGS	LION	FOL	FLOORS
SING	LIONS	FOLLS	FLOUR
SONG	LONG	FOUR	FLOURS
SORRY	LONGS	FROG	FLY
	ONLY	FROGS	FOG
	OUR	GLORY	FOGS
	OURS	GOLF	FOLL

Some of the over 100 possible words:

Make Words

All mine are yours, and
yours are mine; and I have
been glorified in them.

Fallen Letter Puzzle

ANSWERS

Gospel Grams

Today's Gospel Story
is from
John 17:1-11



