

CHILDREN'S CORNER



"...the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table..."
Matthew 15:17

Having put the idea off for a long time, last year, our family got a yellow Labrador pup called Max. Although he can be hard work at times and has made some alterations to our house and garden, Max is a great dog with a lovely, easy-going nature.

Whenever I take him for a walk, I often think what the Bible says about dogs and the lessons we might learn from them. You see, in Bible times, dogs were not seen in a favourable way; in fact, they were often seen as a picture of the sinner.

THE DOG THAT MAKES A DIN
Psalm 59:6 depicts the sinner like a troublesome stray dog, roaming the streets late into the night, disturbing the peace by barking and howling. A stray dog, of course, seems free to do just as it pleases, but what good is such freedom if there is a constant threat of attack, cold and hunger. They have no one to love or train them up in the way they should go. I wonder if your life is headed in that direction. Are you a nuisance, running wild and getting up to all kinds of things you shouldn't be doing?

THE DANGEROUS DOG

Sometimes you'll see a sign that says, "Beware of the dog." Writing to the church in Philippi, Paul warned the believers there to beware of dogs. What he meant was, watch out for evil doers and trouble-makers, because all such people bring nothing but hurt and harm. Wise counsel indeed.

THE DIRTY DOG

A dog that has no loving master will soon have a coat that is all matted and soiled. It will search through rubbish for scraps of food. Proverbs 26:11 paints a very gruesome picture of the dirty dog that returns to its own vomit. Again, this, too, is a picture of the sinner, who sadly goes back to the same old sins over and over again, even though such things are harmful and destructive to them.

THE DUTIFUL DOG

Think of a guard dog, a guide dog or a sheep dog. The dutiful dog knows, obeys and loves its master. It has purpose and direction in its life. What a world of difference between this type of dog, to that of some of the other ones we looked at earlier - dogs that are a law unto themselves, running wild and making a nuisance of themselves. In closing, let me pose some questions. From all the descriptions given what type of dog matches your life best? Who are you looking to and who is your master and friend? ■

QUIZ

There are many other animals mentioned in the Bible. Complete the word search. You might

have to look up the references for some of the animals in the word search. Then, use the letters left over to find a three-letter word connected with animals.

Matthew 12:40

SWINE
LION
HORSE
FROGS
SWAN

Song of Solomon 2:15

SERPENTS
COLT
CAMELS
APES
PEACOCKS
FISHES
SHEEP

Isaiah 40:31

OX (2)
LAMBS

F	O	X	E	S	P	E	W	H	F
I	L	S	H	E	E	P	H	O	R
S	A	W	C	R	A	E	A	R	O
H	M	I	A	P	C	A	L	S	G
E	B	N	M	E	O	G	E	E	S
S	S	E	E	N	C	L	I	O	N
V	C	O	L	T	K	E	O	X	T
A	P	E	S	S	S	S	W	A	N

ANSWER:

Are you 12 or under?
Send your **answer, name, address and church to:**
Rev Garth Wilson
Email: answer@fpvision.org

