

# Robert and the Bear

## Value: Peacemakers



Robert the Rabbit lived in the middle of the woods in a large hole in the center of a lot of thorn bushes with his family. Robert Rabbit, his wife Eva Rabbit, and their six little bunny rabbits, lived there for many, many years.

The whole Rabbit family loved living there because it was always so quiet, peaceful, and very beautiful.

There were no people that lived within miles of them, and because they lived in the center of a lot of thorn bushes, they didn't have any other animals close by except the Bob the Bird, and Lucy the Butterfly.

About a mile or so from the thorn bushes where the Rabbit family lived, there was a nice stream that had cold water in it and it ran through the woods from one side to the other. On one side of the stream there was a small field in, but it was still part of the woods and had miles and miles of trees on the other side of the field.

The field was the home for a lot of animals. There was Manny and Maple Mouse with their twelve baby mice, Randy and Rebecca Rabbit (the cousins of Robert and Eva), George the Groundhog, and Larry the Lizard, to name a few.

Several other animals like Dave and Donna Deer, Bucky the Beaver, and Ricky Raccoon lived in the woods around the field.



One day after a very bad thunderstorm, the animals noticed a large tree had been blown down. All of the animals gathered around the fallen tree to look at this new bridge that the tree made stretching from one side to the other of the stream.

"Let's cross over the stream and see what is in the woods on the other side," said Manny and Maple Mouse.

"Why that sounds like a very good idea," said Bucky the Beaver.

"I don't know," said Robert Rabbit, "no one has ever been over to that side of the stream before. Maybe it might be ok, but something just doesn't feel right to me."

"It doesn't feel right to me either," said Dave Deer. "I have a really good sense of smell. As a matter of fact, I am smelling a strange smell right now," Dave said as he lifted his nose high into the air smelling all the smells in the wind like deer do.

"We need to RUN," Dave said excitedly, as Dave and Donna Deer turned to run. "We are All in Danger, it's a BEAR," he yelled as everyone started running.



All the animals could feel the shaking of the ground as a very large grizzly bear ran towards them. The bushes separated on the other side of the fallen tree and there was a grizzly bear that stood up on his back legs and must have been at least ten foot high.

The animals all ran towards the safety of their homes as the bear started crossing the fallen tree.



As Robert and Eva Rabbit headed for their home, Robert realized that there wasn't any way that would make it time because they lived so far and they had their children with them.

"You take the children, keep going, and make sure that you are all safe, I have to do something," Robert said as he turned and headed straight towards the bear.

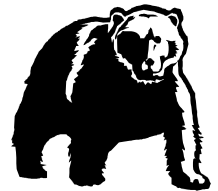
"Oh no," Eva cried as she took the children and headed to the house.

Soon, Robert Rabbit found himself looking face to face with the giant grizzly bear. He hurriedly said a fast prayer to God that He would give him the right words to say to the bear.

"Just WAIT a minute," Robert nervously said to the bear, "Who do you, think that you are?"

"WHY I AM GREG THE GRIZZLE BEAR," the bear said in a very loud voice and he stood up on his back legs again, and towered ten feet high above Robert Rabbit who was very small in comparison.

"Well, Greg, this is where all of us animals have lived in peace together for many years. Why would you do something like coming over here and chasing all of us and frightening all of us," Robert said fearlessly. "We are all creatures that God has made, great and small".



"That is what bears do," Greg answered very loudly.

"But," Robert Rabbit went on to say, "you are a creature that God has made too. God loves you just like He loves all of us. And what's more Greg, we love you too. Can't we all live together in peace in these woods? The woods are plenty large enough for all of us."

"Hummmmm," Greg said as he thought about all that the rabbit had said to him. "I don't have any friends and live over there by myself," said Greg as he sat down along side of Robert.

"We would all like to be your friends and live together in peace," Robert replied.

"That would really be great," Greg happily answered. "We will live in peace forever."

Later that day Eva Rabbit told her husband Robert what a great Peacemaker he was and how the Bible says that "Blessed are the peacemakers".

