

Forbidden Fruit

By Susie K. Adams

Scripture Reading: *Not that I speak in respect of want; for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.* (Philippians 4:11, KJV)

Our unexpected move to the country has truly been God's blessing. I never dreamed I would have deer, turkey, raccoons, and many other critters to watch every day. Neither did I know how God would teach and convict me almost daily through His word and His creation.

A pudgy groundhog climbed up our small peach tree and seemed determined to have the choicest morsel from the smallest limb at the very top. He had trampled over a ground full of fallen fruit and slowly made his way upward. With every step, he again ignored the smaller peaches to reach his goal. He could have had a delicious meal by now and gone home to nap. Instead he struggled for something better.

He slowly moved his fat body out the limb, as it began to shake and bend. Almost to the end, he was forced to ease back, lest the limb break under his weight. Often I was sure he and the limb would end up on the ground, as the struggle continued for what seemed like hours.

Why could he not be satisfied with what God had so conveniently put before him? He was such a silly creature.

It was so funny to watch, until I began to see myself--not always a good picture either. How often have I insisted on bigger and better and often sacrificed God's best? How many times have I treaded over persons with needs that God placed in my way, so that I could pursue my own bigger plan?

Am I as silly, at times, as that groundhog? I wonder...

Prayer Focus: Thank God for His creation. Thank Him for His Holy Spirit. Thank Him for His kindness and mercy and love that never fails. And thank Him today for all He has given you. Ask Him to teach you to be content where He has placed you.