

“Country Boy: A Camel Fit for A King”

Written By: Pastor Dale Evrlist + Jeremiah Pearson

Narrated By: Eleanor O’Neal, Noah Phillips, Iris Pearson, Kenna Mozingo + Aaron Tippit

Once, there was a camel named Country Boy. He was young and strong, and could travel long distances carrying heavy loads to deliver to anyone, anywhere. This was a camel with great potential. But Country Boy was young and inexperienced so he became rebellious and resistant to anyone or anything that blocked his desire to do what he wanted to do. This young camel had a lot to learn.

Well one day, the Magi (also called Wise Men) had seen a star in the Eastern sky that showed them that a special King had been born. This King would be the King of the Jews and the King of the entire world! These Wise Men needed a very important caravan so that they could bring gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to this King—the Messiah. And what would this caravan need? Camels!

And, so, a call went out for camels to be part of a Caravan Camel Bootcamp to teach, train and test the right camels and get them ready for this holy journey with a holy purpose. Country Boy signed up for the camp thinking that he could graduate easily. After all, the caravan sounded like an adventure, and Country Boy loved adventure. But Country Boy was in for a big surprise.

At the Caravan Camel Bootcamp, an experienced military officer named Commander Joel was the one that God had chosen to help Country Boy become useful for this special mission to find the Holy King.

On the first day of the boot camp, Commander Joel said to the camels, “Today, you camels must learn the importance of submission to the authority of those who know more than you.” Country Boy raised his hoof and said, “Hey teacher, I want to say something.” Commander Joel said, “Alright Country Boy, what is it?” Country Boy said, “I know a lot about uh, a lot of things and I don’t really feel like I need any teaching or teachers like you.” Commander Joel said, “Oh, you do, do you? Well, instead of thinking so highly of yourself, I would suggest that you open your ears and learn to listen really well.” Country Boy failed test #1.

On the next day of the boot camp, Commander Joel said to the camels, “Today, you camels must learn the importance of carrying a burden on your back, especially a rider. Any volunteers?” Country Boy raised his hoof and said, “I’ll do it, it sounds so

easy, and I'm basically great at everything." So, Commander Joel climbed up on a nearby wall and jumped on to Country Boy's back. But as soon as he jumped on his back, Country Boy got scared and began to run around in circles, nearly throwing Commander Joel off of his back! "This feels so weird!" Said Country Boy, "Get off, get off, get off!" So, Commander Joel immediately jumped off. Country Boy failed test #2.

On the next day of the boot camp, Commander Joel said to the camels, "Today, you camels must learn to kneel down, so that you can be loaded and unloaded easily. When I tap your legs with this stick you must immediately kneel." As all the camels were tapped they knelt down. All except for one: Country Boy. He said, "This is absurd. Why should I have to kneel? I won't do it." Country Boy's pride had gotten the better of him again. Country Boy failed test #3. But Commander Joel was going to try one last thing.

That night, Commander Joel went to the barn and pulled Country Boy aside. "Country Boy, you have failed every test in this boot camp. You have been stubborn and prideful and if something doesn't change tonight, you will not graduate or be able to join the caravan that will take gifts to worship the King, and that would be so sad."

Country Boy hung his head low in shame. How could he have been so foolish? He looked at Commander Joel and said, "I have been prideful, stubborn and foolish. I am so sorry. Is there some way I could still join the caravan?"

Without saying another word, Commander Joel took his stick and tapped Country Boy on the legs. Country Boy immediately knelt down just as he had seen the other camels do. Commander Joel was thrilled, and then taught Country Boy all the lessons that he had previously ignored. Country Boy was now ready to be a part of the caravan!

As Country Boy joined the caravan, he was humbled and honored to be chosen to carry one of the Wise Men who would offer a gift to this special King—King Jesus, the Messiah. When the caravan finally arrived in Bethlehem, Country Boy knelt down with the other camels as the Wise Men presented Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. These were gifts fit for a King. And they were carried there by a special caravan that included one camel in particular named Country Boy—a camel fit for a king.

The end.