

# Henry and Winston

## **Value: God's Love**

Winston was a very, very, very large dog. Because of his size, a lot of the other animals were afraid of him (also a lot of people were too). Winston loved to be around other animals and just wanted to be friends with everyone.



Sam was Winston's first owner and was a very mean person. He really didn't know why he had gotten Winston and his sister Suzy, but he got them anyway. Sam kept Winston and his sister Suzy in two different cages in his large back yard.

Winston would ask Sam every day, "Please sir, can Suzy and I go run and play in your yard like the other dogs in the neighbor? Your yard is very, very large, and it is fenced in so we promise that we won't go anywhere else and we promise that we won't chew on anything or be bad in any way." Sam would act like he didn't hear Winston, even though he really did, and he would walk back in his house.



One day Winston heard little Joey on the other side of the fence talking to his smaller brother Bobby. Joey was telling Bobby all about what he had learned in Sunday school earlier that morning, and Bobby was telling Joey what he had learned in his Sunday school class.

Both boys were talking about God and how He had created all creatures and things, including man and everything in the world, and for that matter, everything in the whole wide universe.

They went on talking for hours and hours. Winston enjoyed listening to them from the other side of the fence. He learned so much that day. Winston was a very smart dog. In fact, Winston was very, very smart, probably one of the smartest and wisest dogs around.

Winston was so happy that day about everything that he had heard and learned. You see he was so smart that he could remember everything that he heard, even if he had heard it only one time.

Winston would share everything that he learned with his sister Suzy from across the very, very large yard. Every Sunday afternoon Winston would look forward to hearing Joey and Bobby talk about Sunday school from the other side of the fence.

It would make him feel so happy and feel so wonderful inside hearing about God's love.

Suzy was very sad most of the time because she couldn't hear the boys talking way other where she was kept. Winston realized this so he would share each and every story of God's love with his sister.



One night Winston was thinking about God's love of all creatures so he decided to pray. "God," he said, "I'm not asking as much for myself as I am asking for my sister Suzy, would you find her a good home where she can be truly happy?"

God heard Winston's prayer, as He hears all of our prayers, and it touched his heart greatly.

Down the street from Sam lived Betty Lou. Betty Lou was a woman that was filled with God's love in all that she did. She had seen Winston and Suzy before in Sam's backyard, and because she had such a love for God's creatures, God put it in her heart to stop at Sam's house.



"Hello," Betty Lou said as Sam answered the door. "I live right down the street and I would like to know if I could be friends with your dogs and bring them some treats."

"Hum," said Sam as he thought about it. Just then, God touched his heart and a warm feeling went through him. "Would you like to have these two dogs?" he asked. "I really don't show them God's love the way I should," he said.

Because Betty Lou had so much love in her heart for all of God's creatures she volunteered a lot at a place where they help dogs, cats, and everything else find good homes, so she took Winston and Suzy that very minute.

The next morning, the Smiths came to find a dog. "Would you like to come home with us?" they asked Winston. "Well," said Winston, "because of the love that I have, as much as I would like to go with you, I would rather that you give my sister a good home first."

The Smiths were so impressed with Winston that they immediately gave Suzy a home. Then Henry and his parents showed up. "Oh look mother, look father, at what a beautiful, Wonderful, smart dog he is," the little boy said as he came to Winston. "Would you like to come live with us? We live on a giant farm with lots of animals who would be your friends and I have a lot of brothers and sisters to love and play with you too," Henry continued.



"Lots of animals to be my friends too?" Winston repeated, "I would love to."

Winston was running, playing, and having all sorts of fun with Henry when he heard a familiar voice.

"Winston?"

Winston turned and there stood his sister Suzy. "Oh how wonderful God's love is," she said, "that he put the Smiths' farm right next door. Now we can run, play and have fun together each and every day."

From that day forward, Suzy and Winston were the happiest dogs that ever were, and they played, and played, and played.

