

The Ducklings and the Log

On the edge of a quiet pond, in a little nest, a mother duck sat on her eggs. She waited for many days for her ducklings to hatch. When that day finally came, a cute, fuzzy little yellow duckling popped out of one of the eggs. Then another duckling hatched, and then another. The mother duck was thrilled; she had three beautiful little ducklings!

At first the little ducklings were well-behaved, obeying their mother, and playing well together. But as the days went by, the three little ducklings found they liked to do their own thing more than listening to what their mother had to say and would argue continually. Mother Duck didn't know what to do. Her cute ducklings were now displaying such ugly behavior!



One bright and sunny day, Mother Duck and her ducklings went to a nearby pond. Before leaving for the pond, Mother Duck explained that there were dangers at this pond, but if they stayed close to her, all would be well.

When they reached the water's edge, the little ducklings could hardly contain their excitement.

"Look at all those logs in the water," said the littlest duckling. "They'll be so much fun to play on."

"I bet you couldn't even get up on one of them," snickered the duckling beside her. "You can hardly walk without tripping. You're so clumsy."



“Well, I don’t think you can do any better,” muttered the other duckling.

“Mother, can we go out to those logs?” one of the ducklings asked.

“Let’s cross the swamp first, and then I’ll check to see that it is safe. Follow me.”

Mother Duck glided out onto the water, steering well clear of the logs. One little duckling followed closely, and one lagged behind, but the littlest one decided that she was going to explore the pond for herself.

Following Mother is boring, she thought. I’m going to find some adventure.

She called the other little duckling that had lagged behind, and the two of them made their way toward what they thought was a log. But as they neared the log, it began to shift in the water.

“Wha-what’s this!?” cried one of the ducklings.

“Oh, don’t be a scared ducky,” the other duckling said. “It’s the water making it roll.”



But she was wrong. Instead, she came face to face with a mean-looking, angry crocodile, whose sleep they had disturbed.

"Mother, Mother! Save us!" wailed the ducklings. And the two of them began swimming frantically toward the shore.

Snap! went the crocodile's strong jaws.

They made it out of the swamp just in time! The crocodile slowly swam on by, too lazy to continue the chase.

When Mother found the two stray ducklings, they were shaking from bill to tail.

"We're sorry for wandering off," the littlest one whimpered. "I should never have thought I knew best."

"Me too," her sister chimed in.



"I'm glad you're both safe, and I hope you understand why it's important to obey. I would've been very sad if anything had happened to you."

"We promise never to do that again," chorused the ducklings.

From that day on, they endeavored to listen to their mother and to follow her instructions, and because they did, they spent many happy days together, until they all grew up and taught their own ducklings the importance of obedience.

Moral: God blesses obedience, because when you listen and obey, He can protect you from danger. So be loving and obedient, and you'll have a much happier time, because you're doing the right thing.

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