ANDROCLES
AND
THE LION

(Adapted from an Aesop’s Fable)
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Once there was a slave named Androcles who escaped from his master. He went to the forest to hide.
As he was walking through the forest, he saw a lion lying down moaning and groaning. Androcles was afraid so he immediately ran away. But he was surprised when the lion did not chase him. So he returned back and went near the lion.
As he got near, the lion put out his paw. Androcles saw that it was bleeding and swollen. He found out that a big thorn had got into it. He pulled out the thorn and bound up the paw of the lion.
The lion rose and licked the hand of Androcles like a dog. For several days, Androcles would go to the lion to bring him some meat, until he got fully well.
One day, both Androcles and the lion were caught. Androcles was imprisoned and was sentenced to be thrown to a hungry lion.
Soon, Androcles was led out to the plaza where the king and all his soldiers came to watch how the slave would be eaten up by the lion. Next, the lion was let loose from his den and roared loud as it got near its victim.
But as it got close to Androcles, the lion recognized his friend, and licked him like a friendly dog.
The king who was very surprised called Androcles. He, then told the king about how he and the lion became friends. So the king forgave Androcles and freed him while the lion was let loose and brought back to the forest.