

The wonderful thing about Tiggers

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There is within each of us a desire to explain complex truths in a simple way. That's why adults like the 3 minute children's message just as much or more than the kids! That's why I want to share with you my fascination with Tigger (tee – eye- double gee – errr).

As the Tigger Song on Youtube goes, "The wonderful thing about Tiggers is Tiggers are wonderful things. Their tops are made out of rubber. Their bottoms are made out of springs. They're bouncy, trouncy, flouncy, pouncy -- Fun, fun, fun, fun, FUN!"

When Tigger first comes to the 100-acre wood, he shows up in the middle of the night at Winnie the Pooh's house. Pooh asks him to be quiet and sleep and in the morning he could have a bowl of honey. Tigger said, "That's what tiggers like best!" But in the morning, when Tigger tastes the honey, it turns out that tiggers don't like honey after all. So Pooh walks and Tigger bounces to Piglet's house to munch on some of Piglet's favorite food – haycorns (acorns). But when he tastes a haycorn, he finds out that tiggers don't like haycorns. So Pooh and Piglet walk, and Tigger bounces, on down to Eeyore's place to sample some of Eeyore's favorite food – thistles. It comes as no surprise that we soon discover that tiggers don't like thistles either.

Right away, we learn that although Tigger may not be the sharpest tack in the box he is always happy, always positive, always confident. He might be hungry, but that doesn't keep him from bouncing.

Tigger is the personification of "looking on the bright side." A tigger makes the most of each and every moment and in doing so fills his world with joy.

Tigger bounces in joy, although his bouncing annoys the always practical and reasonable Rabbit, who thinks it's impractical and unreasonable to be bouncing and so filled with joy all of the time.

*Once, when Rabbit was particularly perturbed with Tigger and his bouncing, he hatched a plan to change Tigger by taking Tigger deep into the woods and waiting for him to bounce out ahead of the other animals as he always did, and then to run home, leaving Tigger lost and alone in the woods overnight. "Mark my words," says Rabbit, "he'll be a different Tigger altogether." "Why," said Pooh. "Because he'll be a humble Tigger. Because he'll be a Sad Tigger, a Melancholy Tigger, a Small and Sorry Tigger..."*

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"I should hate him to go on being Sad," said Piglet. "Tiggers never go on being Sad," explained Rabbit. "They get over it with Astonishing Rapidity. I asked Owl and that's what he said, they always get over it with "Astonishing Rapidity."

No life is without sadness. No life is without troubles and trials. But Tigger, it seems, and tigger-like people, find a way to get over these things with "Astonishing Rapidity."

Give thanks to God! For God makes it possible for each and everyone of us to be joyful. We find in the Psalms, "God has turned my mourning into dancing; God has taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy."

God makes it possible for each and everyone of us to bounce like Tigger. Even Rabbit eventually comes to appreciate Tigger's bounciness. Tigger brings something special to the hundred acre wood. Tigger brings joy. We need more Tiggers in the world. We need more joy in the world. We need more bouncing. Life is bigger and better when it is lived joyfully.

Let us ask God for joy and let us concentrate on the blessings and the good things of life. Let us not be anxious about the bad, but give it to God. Joy will make us better. God will make it possible.