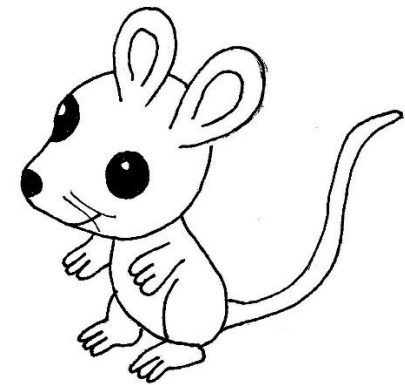
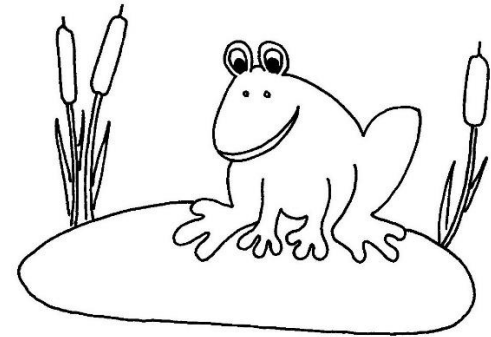
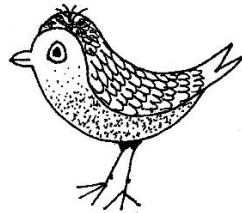
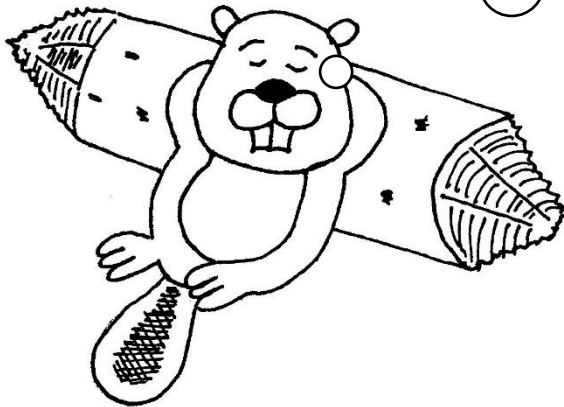
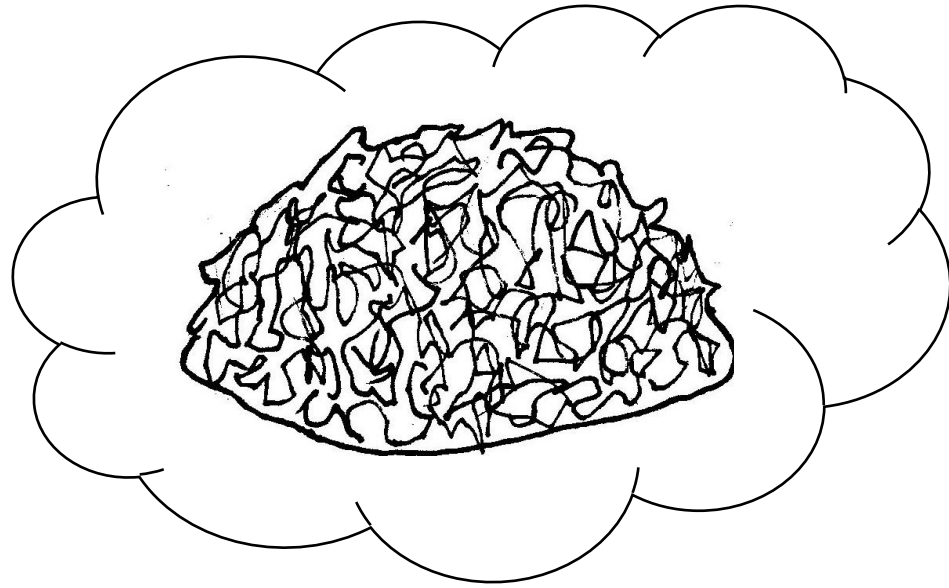
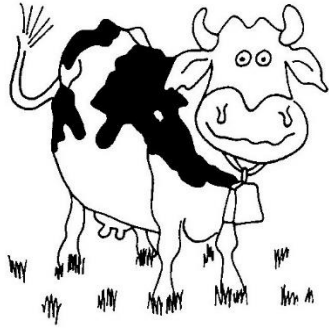


Bartemay Beaver

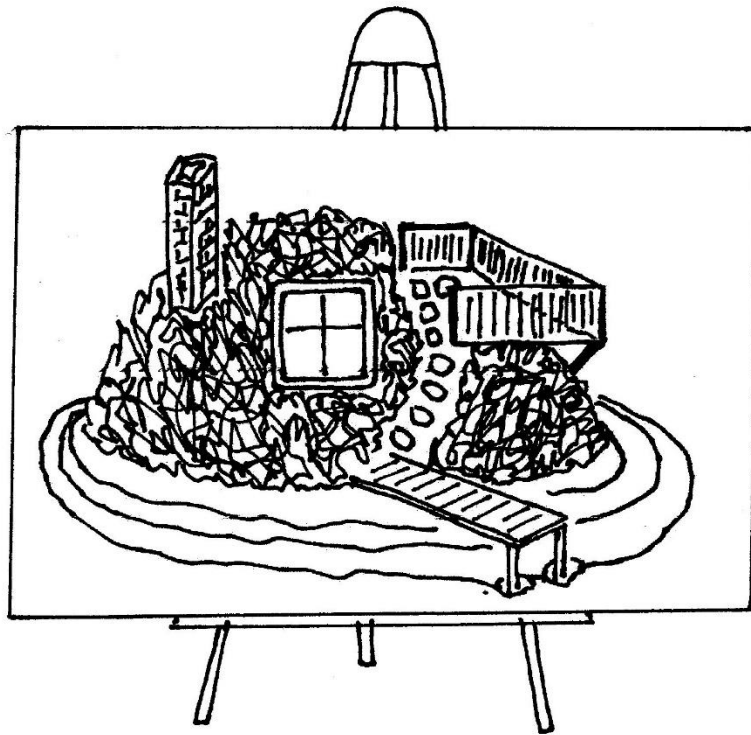


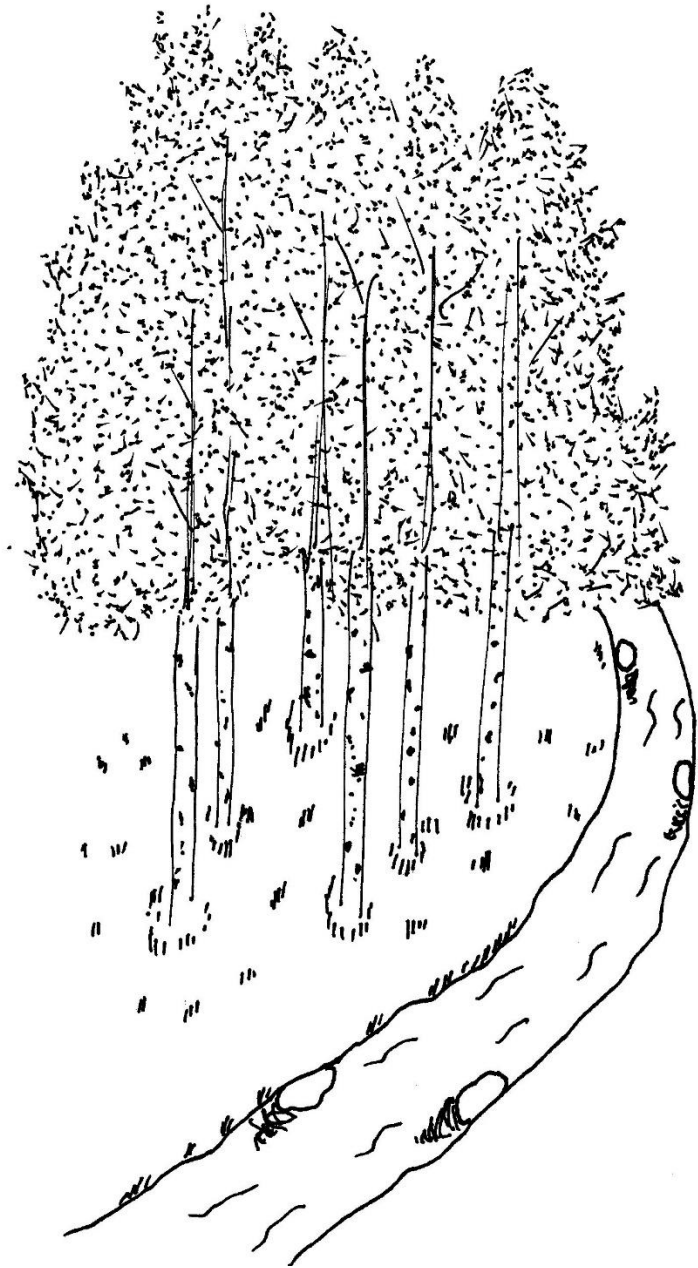
Determination



Bartémay Beaver had a dream; it was to have a home.

He thought awhile, then with a smile
designed a "Super Dome".





He took his bike and sought a site to build his master plan.
He found a place with lots of quakes where quiet waters ran.



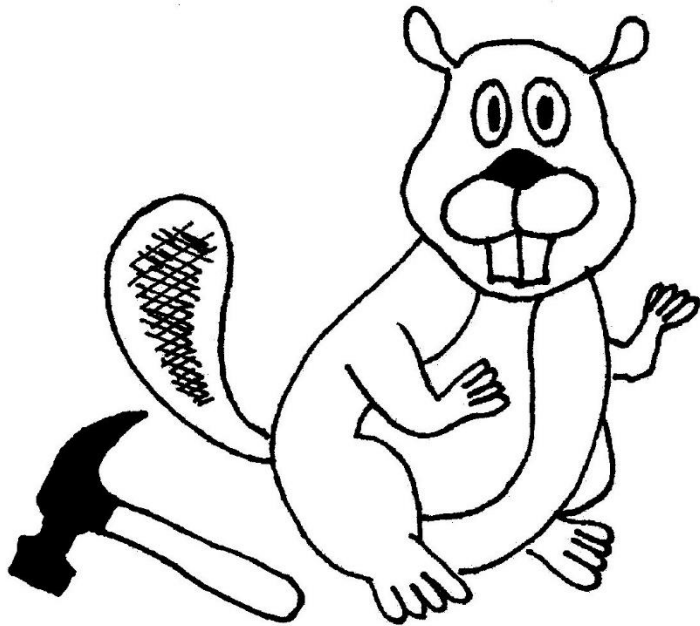
He settled down then went to town a
buildin' on his house.

But as he scraped the earth did shake
and all the sticks fell out.





So with a groan back to the dome went Barté with his hammer.
Just as he bashed bright lightning flashed and down the dome
did clatter.



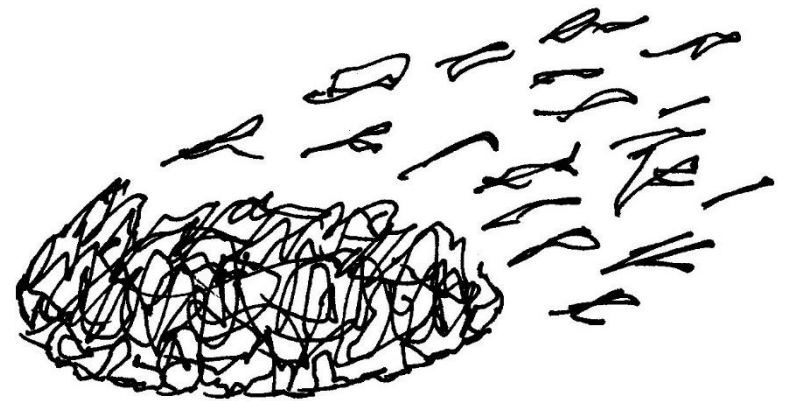
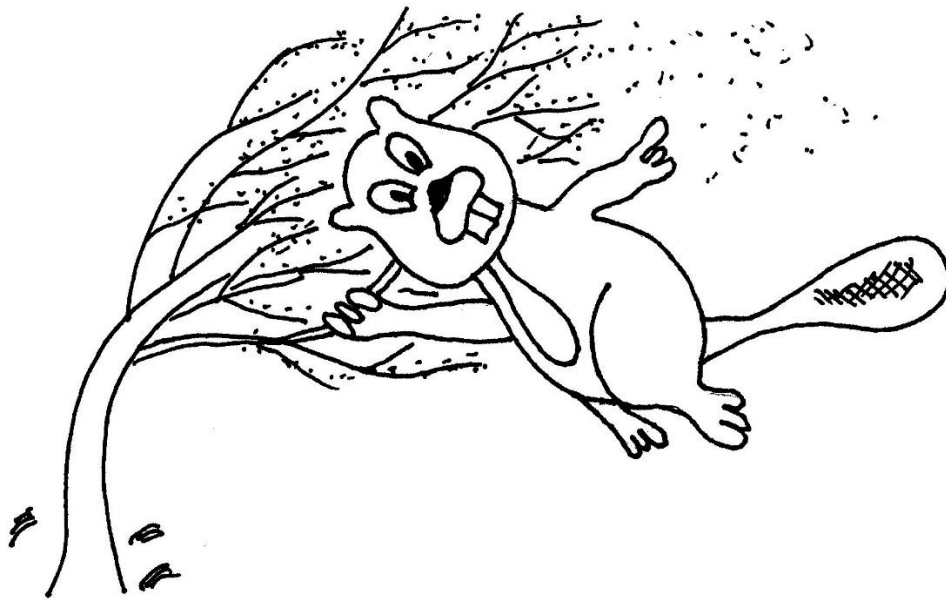
Once more he set about the task of shaping twigs and mud. T'was no surprise when burst the sky and doused him with a flood.



“What could be next?” asked Bartémay, as he did
toil each day.



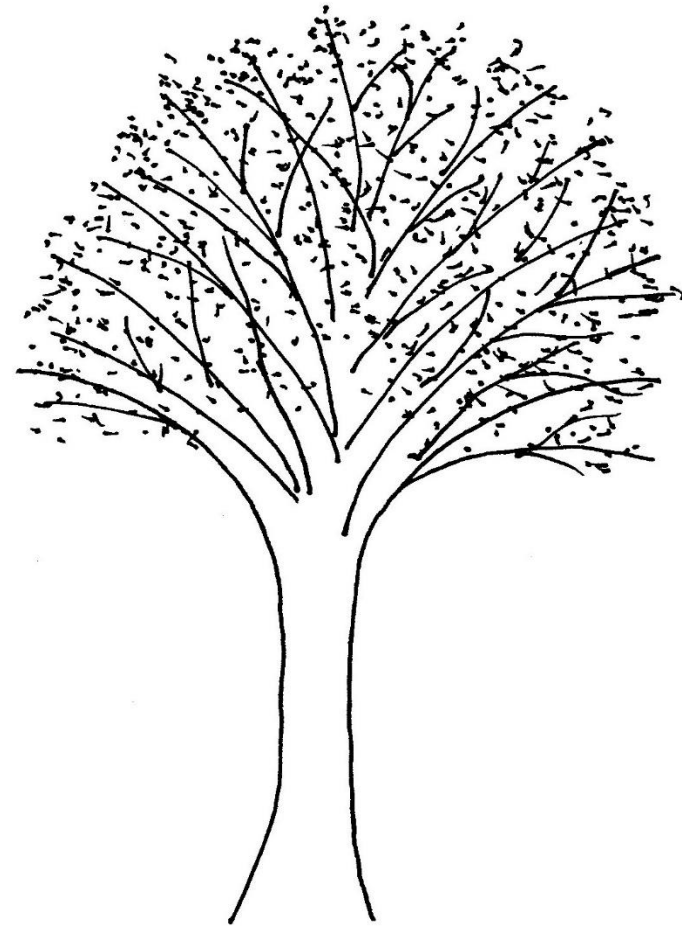
Then came along the wind so strong it
blew his house away.



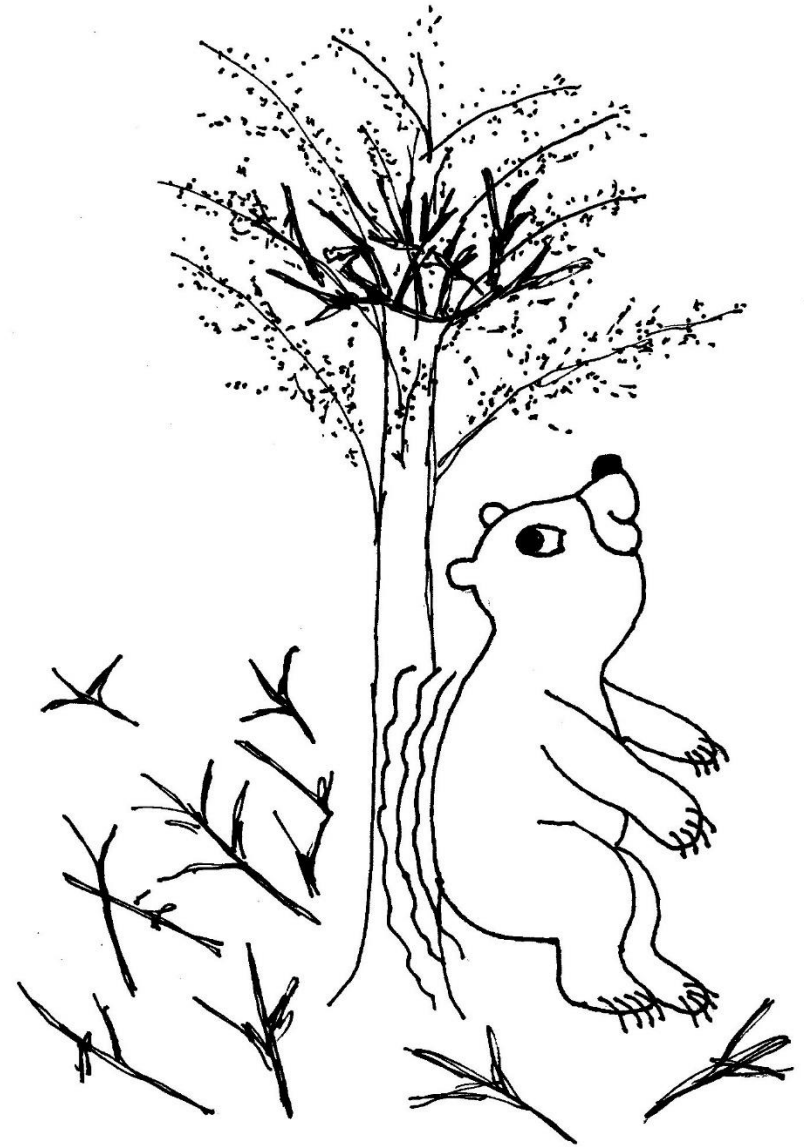


"I'll not give up and call it quits, my dream
I will yet see.

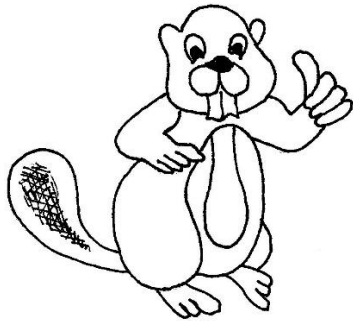
And if I must I'll change my plan and build
it in a tree."



So up he climbed with twigs and twine to build a
beaver nest.

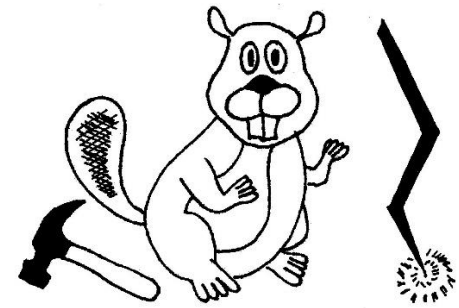


But then came Mac to scratch his back,
and now there's nothing left.



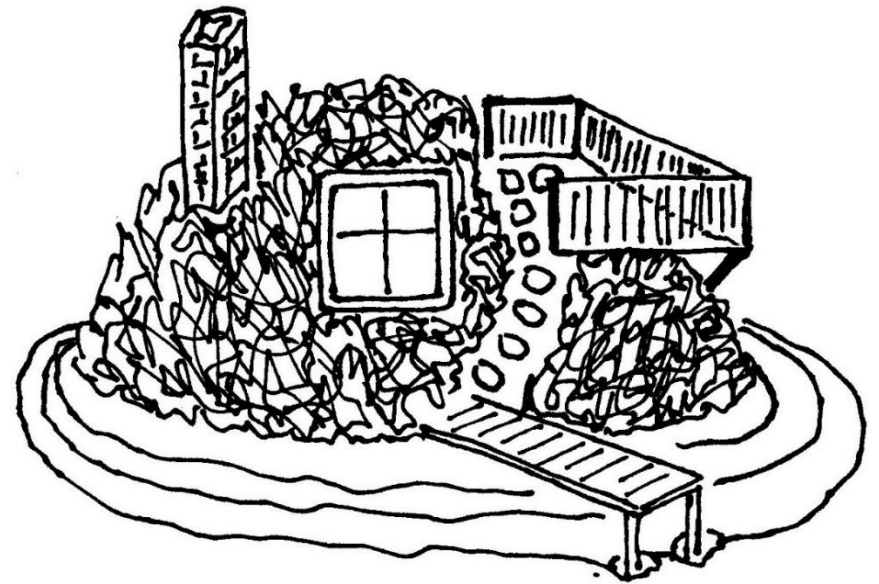
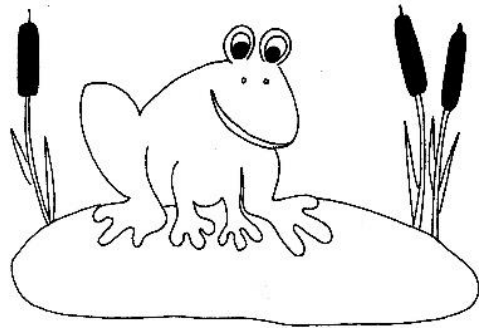
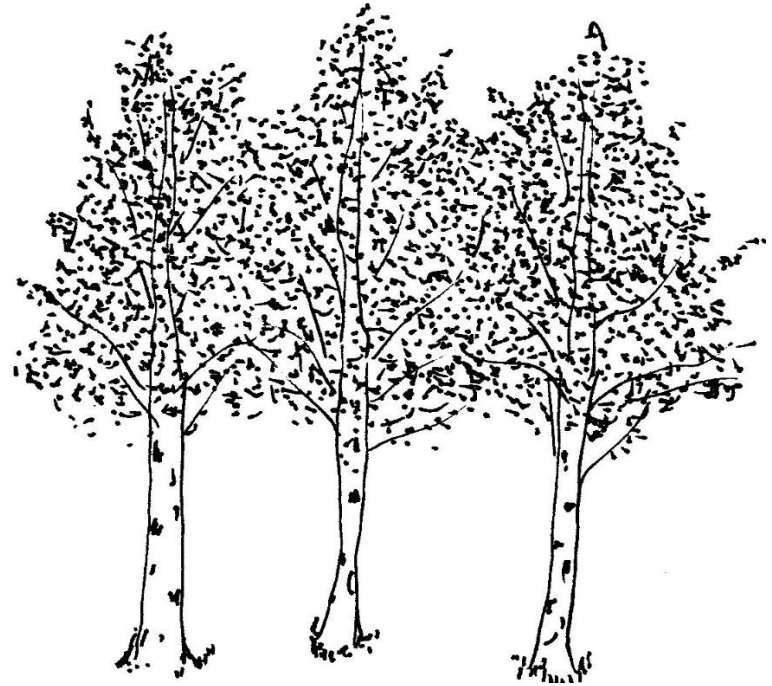
With all of this, most folks would quit,
but not ol' Bartémay.

He just kept on, and on, and on,
success would come one day.



And that it did, I'm pleased to say, his
home is finally done.

Now he can say, "hard work does pay";
his dream has finally come.



Bartémay Beaver

Bartémay Beaver had a dream; it was to have a home.
He thought awhile then with a smile designed a "Super Dome."

He took his bike and sought a site to build his master plan.
He found a place with lots of quakes* where quiet waters ran.

He settled down then went to town a buildin' on his house.
But as he scraped the earth did shake** and all the sticks fell out.

So with a groan back to the dome went Barté with his hammer.
Just as he bashed bright lightning flashed and down the dome did clatter.

Once more he set about the task of shaping twigs and mud.
T'was no surprise when burst the sky and doused him with a flood.

"What could be next?" asked Bartémay, as he did toil each day.
Then came along the wind so strong it blew his house away.

"I'll not give up and call it quits, my dream I will yet see.
And if I must I'll change my plan and build it in a tree."

So up he climbed with twigs and twine to build a beaver nest.
But then came Mac*** to scratch his back, and now there's nothing left.

With all of this, most folks would quit, but not ol' Bartémay.
He just kept on, and on, and on, success would come one day.

And that it did, I'm pleased to say, his home is finally done.
Now he can say, "hard work does pay"; his dream has finally come.

*Quaking Aspen tree

**Earthquake

***Mac the bear

Passing the Word Along:

De-ter-min-a-tion *n.* – the quality of continuing to work to complete a project or task even when problems get in the way.

Bartémay encountered many problems as he went about building his house: an earthquake, lightning, a flood, a bear, and more. He may have gotten discouraged and he may have wanted to quit, but he didn't. He kept going, and going, and going until finally he was done. That's determination.

The Bible and Determination

Next to Jesus, Paul is considered by many to be the most important person in the Christian movement. Paul was a person of determination.

Before being known as Paul, he was known as Saul. He was a Pharisee, a Jewish religious leader. Saul truly believed that Jesus and his followers—Christians—were dangerous to Judaism. So he did everything possible to stop them from talking about Jesus. He was determined to harm Christians. But God was determined otherwise.

One day Saul was traveling to Damascus to capture Christians. He was going to bring them back to Jerusalem in chains. As he neared Damascus a light from heaven flashed around Saul. He fell to the ground. Then he heard a voice. "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

"Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, who you are persecuting," he replied. "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do" (Acts 9:4-6).

When Saul got up and opened his eyes, he was blind.

Saul was led into Damascus where for three days he didn't eat or drink. Then a man named Ananias came and placed his hands on Saul's eyes. Ananias said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 9:17).

By an act of God Saul was now a follower of Jesus. Now Saul was determined to preach the Good News about Jesus instead of harming Jesus and his followers.

Saul's name was changed to Paul, and he did everything possible to tell others about Jesus. But lots of things tried to stop him. Several times Paul was beaten and thrown into prison. He was shipped wrecked twice and bitten by a snake. At times he didn't have food. Several times he was chased by angry crowds. But despite all the problems, Paul was determined to never stop preaching the message of Jesus. As Paul neared the end of his life he knew that he had been faithful to the work that God had called him. His determination helped him do the best he could. This is what Paul said:

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing” (2 Timothy 4:7-8).

As you study the Bible you will find the complete story of Paul in Acts 7:58–28:31 and in his writings in the New Testament. You will find Paul a faithful and determined person. And that was pleasing to God.

From a godly perspective, determination is committing to accomplish God’s goals in God’s time regardless of the opposition.