

## Orangutan Sam and Big Bergstrom Ant

High up the hill near the old oak tree stand  
Lives a pair of strange fellows from Can and Can't Land.

The tall skinny one with the bright orange tan  
Is cheerful and zesty Orangutan Sam.  
The short chubby lad with his head at a slant?  
Why everyone knows him as Big Bergstrom Ant.

The fact of the matter that you need to know,  
Is that zesty Sam "can" and Big Bergstrom "can't".

At the dawn of each day when the sun starts to show,  
Cocky Red Rooster lets go with a crow.  
Up in the air springs wide awake Sam,  
But droopy eyed Bergstrom needs help with his pants.  
"Top of the mornin'," greets Sammy who can  
While poor sleepy Bergstrom in a weak sounding chant,  
Declares to the world, "I can't, I just can't."

After dressing and breakfast comes the brushing of teeth,  
The combing of hair, and the straightening of sheets.  
Being neat and well-groomed is important to Sam,  
"Take care of yourself the best that you can."  
But ol' lazy Bergstrom takes a much different route,  
His slovenly ways make him a dirty old lout.

Now usually on Wednesday host Bergstrom and Sam  
Some neighbors for dinner for muffins and ham.  
So up to the table a foursome with glee,  
Bergstrom and Sammy and sisters McBee.  
Down go the napkins on three of the laps,  
Followed by pleases and thank yous for this and for that.  
But slothful ol' Bergstrom is lacking in manners,  
And looks rather foolish with his chin in his platter.

How dapper is Sammy with his manners at hand,  
He knows what to do and use them he can.  
But unthinking Bergstrom with gravy stained pants,  
He never learned manners and says, "I just can't."

On Fridays the two to town often go  
To visit and share with the neighbors below.  
Friendly sweet Sam is a servant they say,

And helps one another in many fine ways.  
But self-centered Bergstrom thinks not the same things,  
He expects his good neighbors to treat him as king.

Day after day it can easily be seen,  
Kind hearted Sam growing in loving esteem.  
It all comes about from his caring for man,  
And the positive belief that, "I can, yes I can."

As for Bergstrom the Monarch who rules o'r no one,  
He has no real power and certainly no fun.

One day in reprisal a neighbor whirled round  
And shouted at Bergstrom, "Just get out of town!"  
"Oh for my poor kingdom," moaned Bergstrom the ant,  
"My life's a disaster because I just can't."  
"Now why am I scorned for the ant that I am?  
While everyone thinks so highly of Sam?"

"It's simple you see," said a voice from within,  
"The things you give out are the same that come in.  
If you want to be happy there's really no doubt,  
Think more of your neighbors and less of yourself.  
Become a great servant and reach out your hand,  
Be concerned for your brother and help where you can.  
On top of all this, relook at your slant,  
Think more how you can and less how you can't."

So off came the old and on went the new.  
The black cloud of selfishness turned a sweet blue.  
With Sam's gentle guidance and Bergstrom's desire  
The spark of "I can" became a great fire.

"I can love all my family, I can take off my hat.  
I can say a "good morning", and be kind to my cat.  
I can show thoughtful kindness and act in a way  
That tells all my neighbors I mean what I say.  
Perhaps best of all to the world that's at hand,  
I can love one another and be just like ol' Sam."

So on about life go Bergstrom and Sam,  
Giving kind service throughout the great land.  
"Do this" and "do that" with a hug and a pat;  
Go here and go there to show that they care.  
Just think what could be if throughout the whole land  
We loved one another just like Bergstrom and Sam.

GOD HAS A WORD FOR YOU:

If you think you can, you will. But if you think you can't, you won't. So, if you want to be everything that God wants you to be, trust God to help you and believe that you "can". Here are two verses of Scripture to help you.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV).

"I can do everything through him who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13 NIV).

Never forget that all things are possible with God. Remember, "I can", not "I can't".

KNOW GOD'S WORD:

Find the following verses of scripture in your Bible. Write them down. Learn them. Believe them.

Matthew 19:26 - \_\_\_\_\_

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Luke 18:27 - \_\_\_\_\_

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