

# Story Time

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By Delores Campbell – c2007

## **Gary's Bean Stalk**

When Gary Paul was six years old, his teacher read “Jack and the Beanstalk” to the kids one day at school. That evening when Gary Paul came home from school, he went into his Grandma Spencer’s front room where a vine was growing in a pot. Gary thought the vine looked like Jack’s beanstalk; so he tried to climb the vine—stripping it of all its leaves. When I came home from work, my mother was all upset and asking why Gary had pulled all the leaves off her vine.

But my mom still sang “I Need the Every Hour” from the Cokesbury hymnal for Gary, because he liked it so much. And God looked after Gary Paul. After getting off the bus one evening, he picked up a snake by the back of its head and came carrying it in without being bitten.

## **Those Blooming Beans**

*In memory of a Christian grandmother*

My Grandma Stafford planted some green beans one summer and they made beautiful flowers on each bush. When she saw them she remarked that she didn’t care if she had many beans that year, because she had plenty of canned beans left from the year before.

Well, when it came time for her to start picking beans, all she found was blooms—no beans. She laughed and said, “I guess the Lord took me at my word and only gave me blossoms.”

She was a good woman. She was 90 years old when she died and she thought the world of Gary Paul when he was a baby.