



A COLLECTION OF  
**STORIES**  
FROM  
**WEST AFRICA**

Compiled and Illustrated by  
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**HOW TO CATCH  
A MONKEY**



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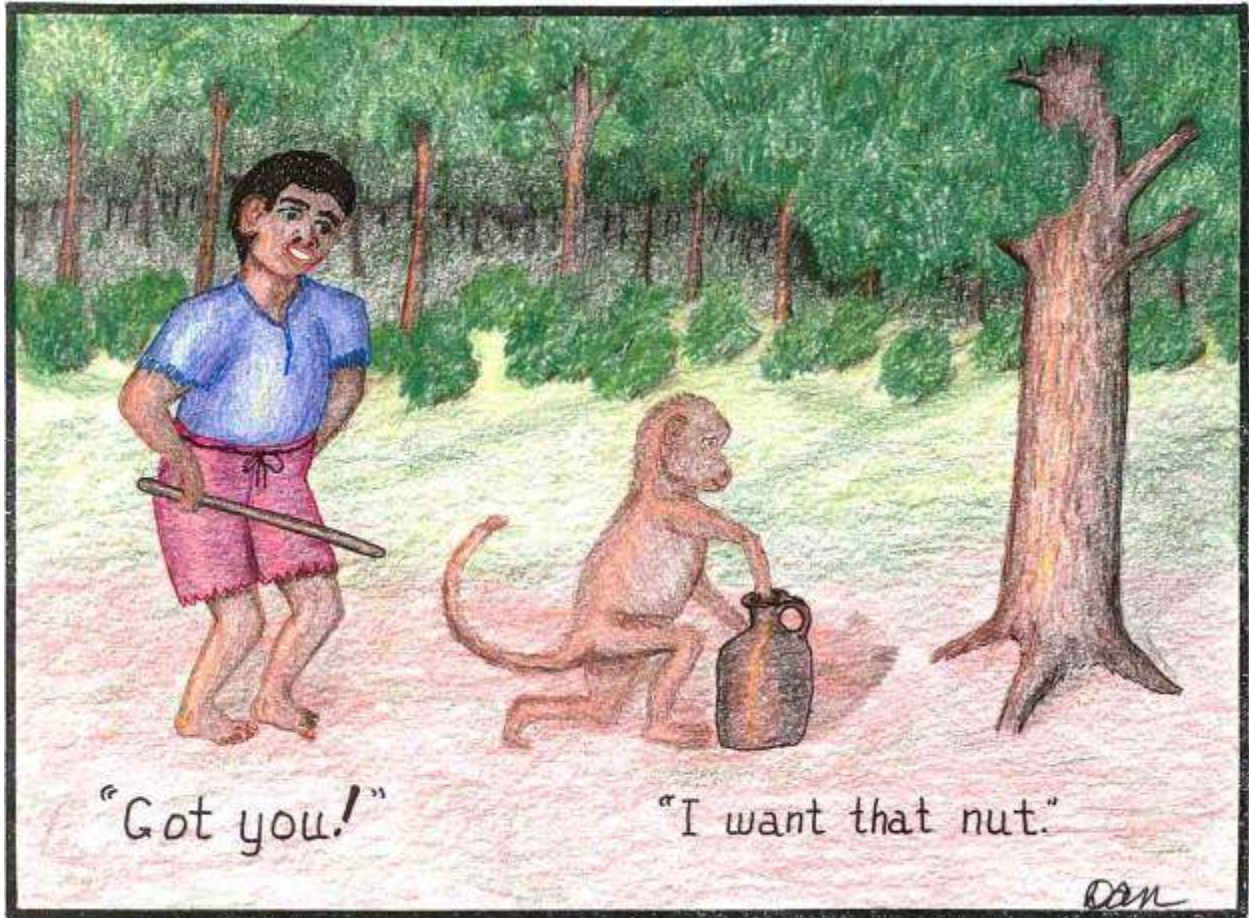
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**By Spark Team**



## HOW TO CATCH A MONKEY

(An illustration I heard in West Africa)

When a Liberian man wants to catch a monkey, he can take a large pot with a very small opening. He can fill it almost full of sand or gravel, and then put in a few large palm nuts.

The monkey smells the palm nuts. He wants the nuts. He reaches in and grabs a nut. But now his hand with the nut in it is too large to pass back out through the small opening in the pot. He will not let go of the nut

even when the man comes and catches him. Even if the man beats him to death he will not let go of that palm nut.

Some of us hold on to the things of this life; even very bad things until they lead us into death. The things of this world can so capture us that we may even miss the eternal life with Jesus and end up in hell.

God makes it clear that this is true when He says: "You get what is coming to you when you sin. It is death! But God's free gift is life that last forever. It is given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 6:23).

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