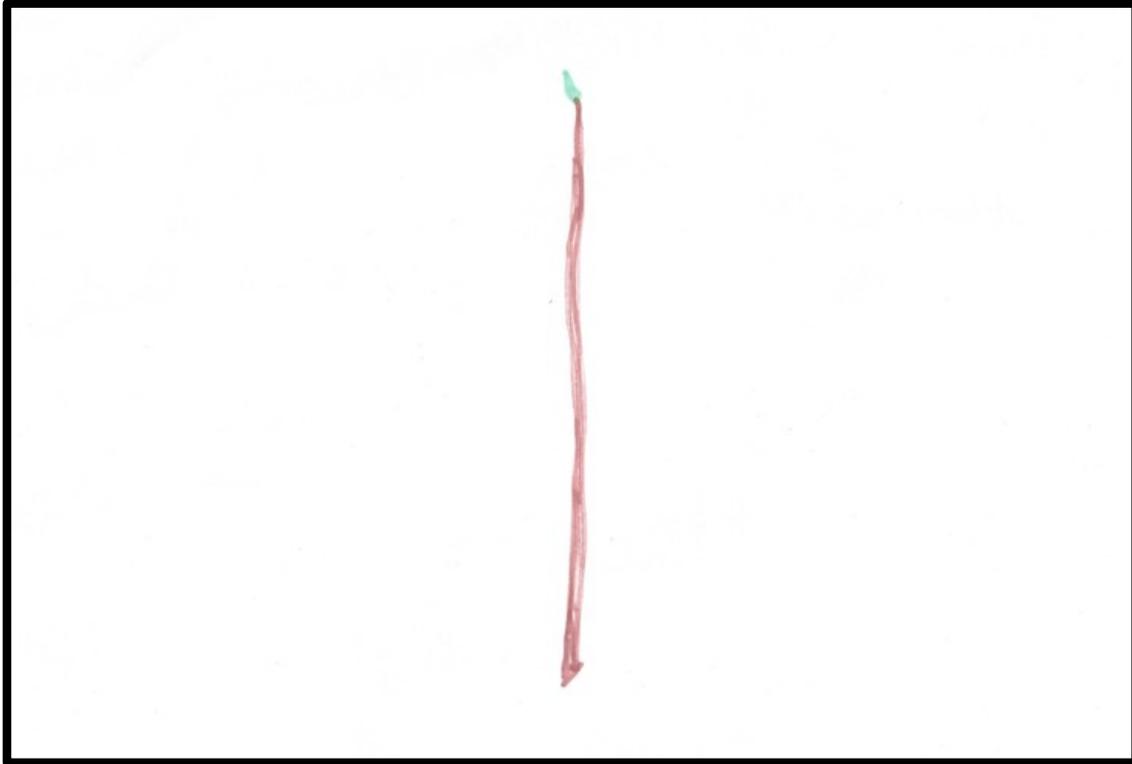


Sam and Kitty and the Fig Tree

Story by Dorner Carmichael | Illustrated by Beth Collins



A fair amount of time ago,
just down the road
Sam and his bride Kitty
lived in a little white house.



**When Sam built the house he planted a fig tree.
Well, when he planted it, it wasn't a tree.
It was a stick, a cutting from someone else's tree. It was
about a foot long.**

**Anyone can grow a fig tree from a stick if they are
patient and give it the right care.**

It needs:

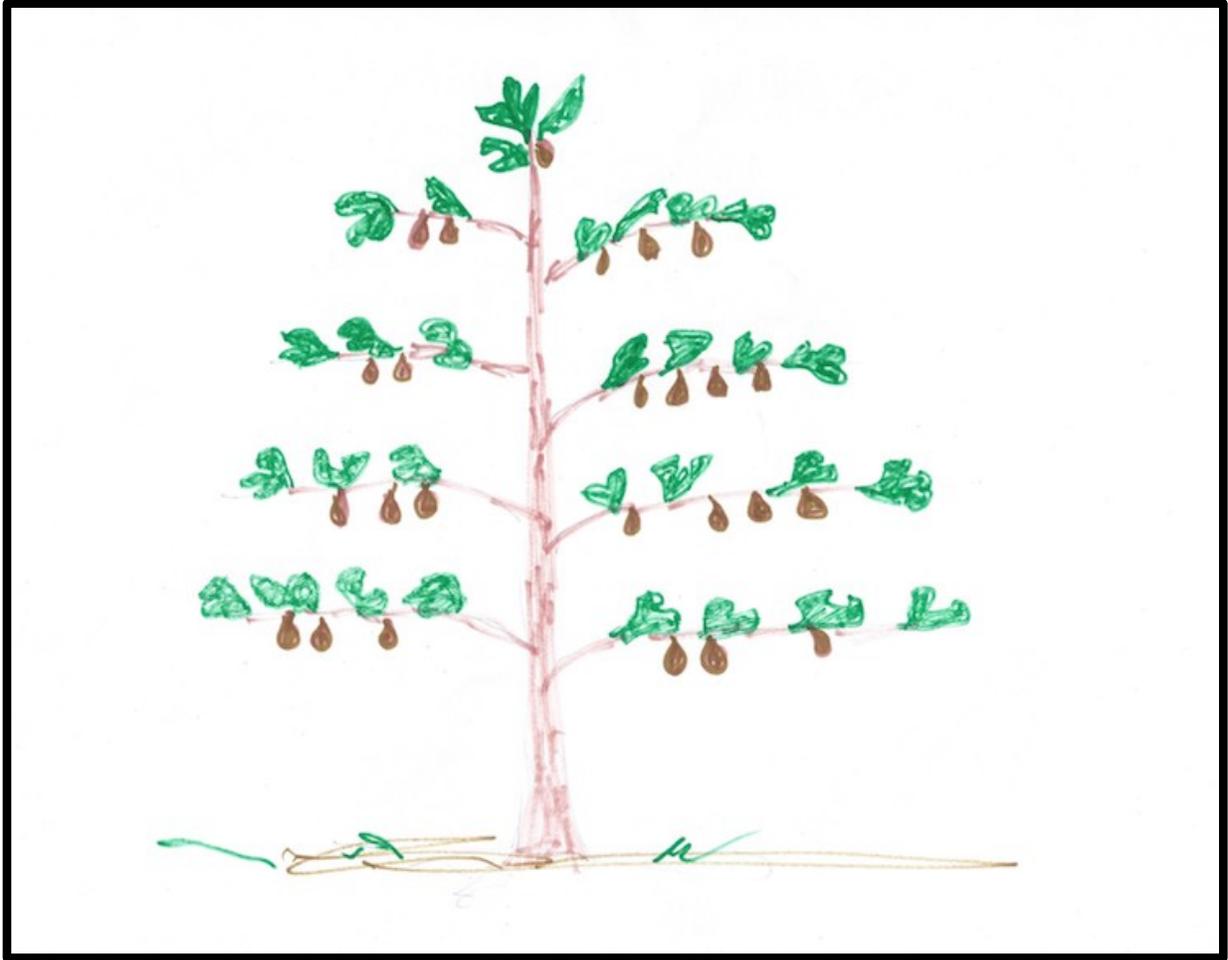
- **Sun**
- **Water, and**
- **Time.**



It takes about six years for a fig tree to get old enough the grow figs. They are delicious. You can eat them right off the tree or make jams and jellies.

Sam wanted to have enough to share. And it happened just that way. Sam was patient. He believed that the tree would grow and one day he would have enough figs to give to everyone.

He liked to share.



Sam and Kitty worked hard. They dreamed of traveling around the world together and they saved their money. While their tree grew in their yard and they dreamed of the places they would go, Sam and Kitty started working with a community of people who shared the things they believed in.

They called themselves Unitarian Universalists and they got together wherever they could, in people's houses, in bars, in banks. They grew even slower than the fig tree because people take so much more care to grow.

People need:

- **Love**
- **Care**
- **Laughter**
- **Understanding, and**
- **Inspiration**



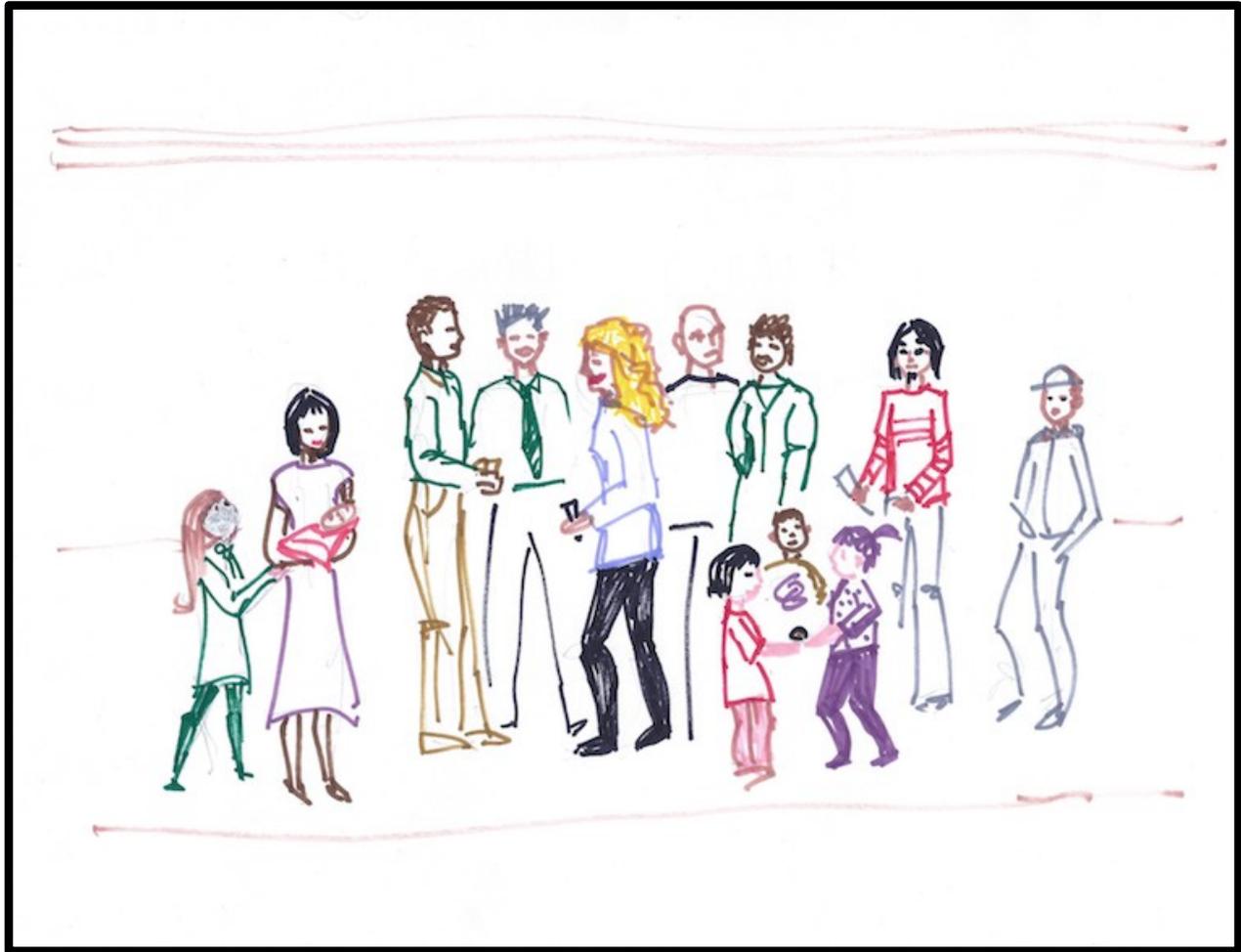
Year by year things grew, the stick became a tree and Sam started giving away figs. But Kitty got sick and their dream of traveling the world wasn't going to happen.

But their community became larger and wanted a home of their own. They finally found a place, a beautiful building.



The community of Unitarian Universalists tried to raise the money but they were too small and it was too much money for a small group of only 40 people.

But Sam, who believed that small things could grow big decided to use the money he and Kitty had saved for their dream of travel for another dream.



So Sam said to his friends, "If everyone together can raise enough money to match my donation, I will give you what Kitty and I had in our dream fund."

They did.

They got a home for everyone's dream to grow.

A place for children to grow and people to laugh and sing and share their dreams together.

We call it High Street Church.

So remember, small things can grow big, we can share what we have, and dreams can come true.

