

# Lesson from a Donkey

By: Michael W. McLemore

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. When all seemed futile, he decided the animal was old and the well needed to be covered up anyway, it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey. He invited his neighbors to come help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly.

***"Shake it off and step up!"***

Then, to everyone's amazement, he quieted down. A few shovel loads later, the farmer looked down the well. He was astonished. With every shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up. As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt, he would shake it off and take a step up. Soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and trotted off! Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of any hole is to "shake it off and step up."