



## **“The Tool Shed”**

**I looked in the shed and observed all the tools,  
To be able to use them, I was supposed to read the rules.  
First came the sandpaper that was used to smooth,  
Its use could be painful or it could be used to sooth.  
Then there was the saw that could cut things in two,  
If words are not chosen carefully, perhaps they should be few,  
They may cut like the saw, once said, they can never be taken back,  
So be careful how you use this tool or great harm you could wrack.  
Then there was the hammer that could bruise and hurt,  
It could drive a nail if what I think, I just blurt.  
I must give careful thought to the words that I speak,  
Or I may wound the discouraged and bruise the weak.  
The hatchet looked sharp and like a dreadful tool,  
To use it often, most would be a fool.  
So I put that hatchet at the bottom of the box,  
Only to be used to chop wood or bust those rocks.  
That tool shed was my mouth and the tongue that lay within,  
The Bible was my instructions, so where should I begin?  
First I needed to read and let those instructions sink deep into my soul,  
And to be able to use those tools wisely must always be my goal.  
So select your words wisely as if they were tools,  
And study your Bible so you will know the rules.  
The power of life and death are in the tongue,  
Learn this lesson well while you are still young.**

**By Louise Hall**