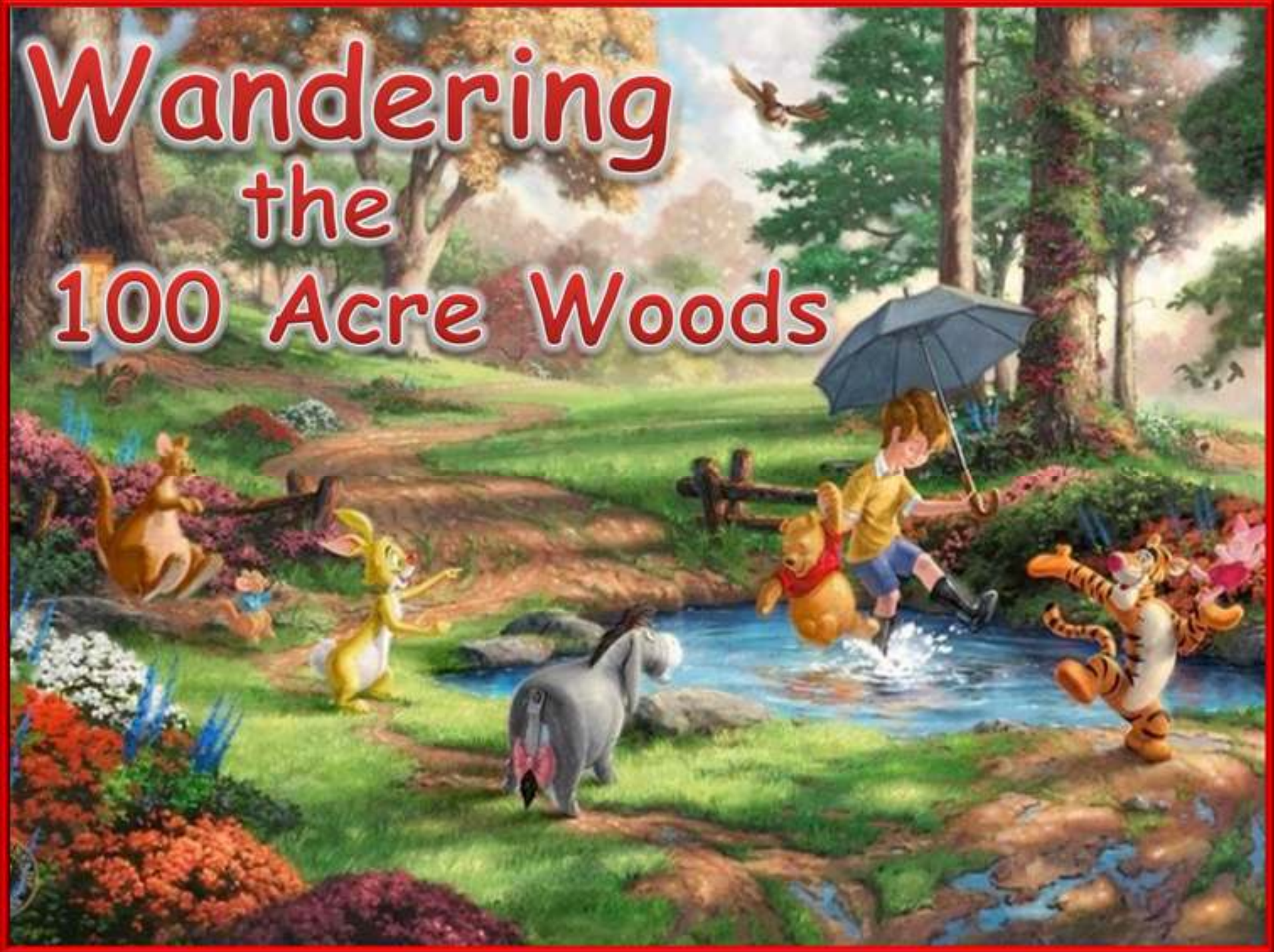
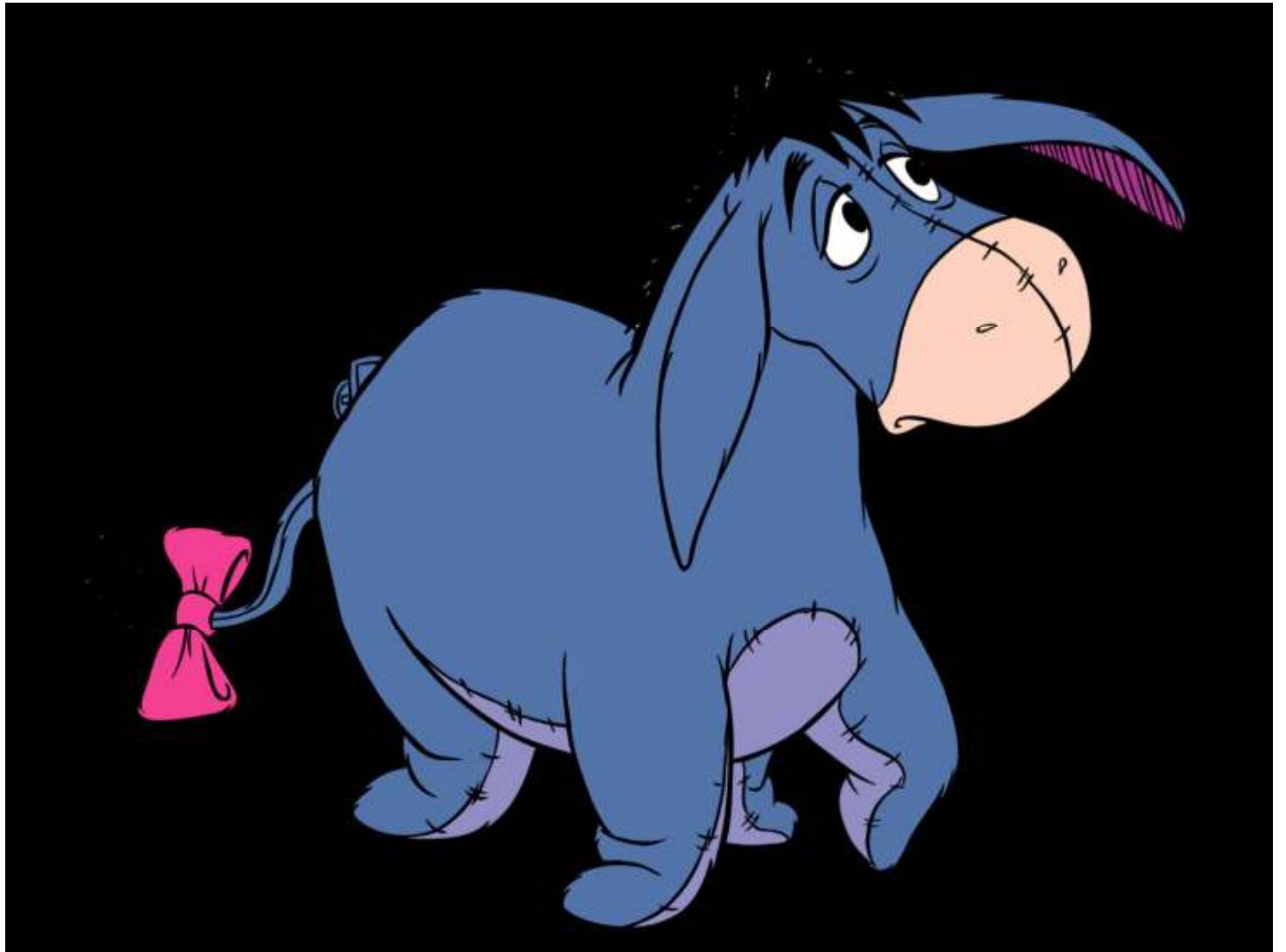


# Wandering the 100 Acre Woods







**Words to describe**

**Eeyore**

**Gloomy**

**Pessimistic**

**Depressed**

**Despair**



# Definitions

**Despair -- The complete loss or absence of hope (No Hope)**

**Hope -- The expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen**



# Understanding Despair (Removing Hope)

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about the troubles we experienced in the province of Asia. We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt we had received the sentence of death.



# Understanding Despair (Removing Hope)

Being Uninformed (The Unknown)

Troubles Experienced

Great Pressure

Fear of Death



# Creating Hope





# Creating Hope

Rely on God Instead of Ourselves

Death has been Conquered

God has delivered and will deliver

Prayers

Give Thanks



Despair

vs

Hope



# Are your hopes stable?

Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.

1 Peter 1:13



# Are your hopes stable?

Hope for happiness...

Despaired by sadness

Hope for health...

Despaired by illness

Hope for wealth...

Despaired by want



# Stable Hope

It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things

1 Peter 1:12



# The Belief Issue

If you are a follower of  
Christ then you  
understand despair  
means not much  
of a God



# **Despair = not much of a God**

**This does not mean we  
will never struggle**

**This does not mean  
we will not have concerns**

**This does not mean we will not  
experience grief, sadness,  
trial and tribulations**



# Stable Hope

We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

Philippians 4:8-9





# Raising Hope

Jesus is our hope -- 1 Timothy 1:1

Focus -- Hebrews 12:2

Remember -- 1 Thessalonians 1:3

Grace and Mercy -- 1 Peter 1:3

We are at peace  
with God -- Romans 5:1



# Be Encouraged

Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged



**Have Hope  
Our God is a  
Great God**

