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## The Fisherman and the Wise

Once upon a time a poor fisherman lived with his wife in a pigsty. The fisherman would go fishing every day. One day after waiting for a long time he caught a huge fish that, surprisingly, could speak. The fish said that it was an enchanted fish. The fisherman didn't kill the fish and went back home.

When he arrived home, he told his wife the story. The wife said, "Why didn't you wish for something?" The fisherman said that he didn't need to wish for anything. The wife replied, "If we had a nice little cottage instead of this dirty pigsty, I would be a lot happier." The man didn't want to go and ask the fish for a cottage but he was more afraid of his wife's anger.

He went to the sea and said to the fish that his wife wished for a cottage. The fish said, "Just go on back; she already has it." When he went back home he saw the nice cottage with a lot of fruits and food in the kitchen. After a few weeks the woman was dissatisfied again and said, "I wish we lived in a bigger place like a castle."

Although the fisherman didn't want to go, but he finally gave up and went to the sea. The sea was dark blue and gray this time. The man said to the fish, "My wife wishes we lived in a big castle." That wish was also granted. When the man went back this time he tried to convince his wife not to wish for anything more, but the wife wanted more and more and asked to be Emperor.

After that the woman wanted to be Pope. That wish was also accepted, but the woman was not satisfied. She wanted to be like the Lord so that she could control sunrise and sunset. This time the fisherman, although extremely reluctant, went to the sea. The sea was terribly stormy. The fish asked, "Well, what does she want now?" The man said she wanted to be like the Lord of the universe. The fish said, "Just go back. She's sitting in the pigsty again." And they are still sitting there today.

1. Where did the fisherman and his wife live?

They lived in a pigsty near the sea.

2. What did he catch after waiting a very long time?

He caught a very big fish after waiting a very long time.

3. What would happen if fisherman knew the fish's real identity?

If he knew the fish's real identity, he wouldn't kill him.

4. What was so special about the fish?

It could talk!

5. Did the fisherman ask the fish to grant him his wishes the first time?

No, he didn't. He didn't ask the fish for anything the very first time.

6. What did the woman wish for first?

She wished she had a nice little cottage.

7. What would happen if they had a cottage?

The woman would be much happier if they had a cottage.

8. What did the woman wish for after her first wish was granted?

She wished she lived in a bigger house, a big stone castle.

9. How would the woman feel if they lived in a big stone castle?

She would feel much happier if they lived in a big stone castle.

10. Was the woman satisfied when she had a big stone castle?

No, she wished to be King of all that land.

11. What color was the sea when the fisherman told the fish that his wife wanted to be King?

The sea was blackish gray, and the water was rough and smelled terrible.

12. What did the wife command the fisherman to do as the King?

She commanded him to go back and ask the fish to make her Emperor.

13. What happened when the woman asked to be the Lord of the universe?

She went back to her pigsty again.

14. What do we learn from the passage?

We learn that we shouldn't be greedy.