

# Fisherman and His Wife

In *The Fisherman and His Wife*, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm tell the story of a fisherman who catches a large fish who is really an enchanted prince.

The fisherman lets the prince go free, and returns home empty-handed. His wife persuades him to return to the sea and ask the enchanted prince to grant him a wish in return for sparing his life.



The fisherman does so, asking – at his wife’s request – that their small hut be turned into a cottage. By the time he returns home, her wish has been granted. His wife soon tires of the cottage, however, and sends her husband back to ask the fish for a large stone castle. Again, her wish is granted.

After the wife has wearied of the castle, she asks to become queen, then to have a palace, to be made an empress, and finally to be made ruler over the sun and moon. At this, the enchanted prince tells the fisherman to return home where he will find his wife back in their old hut.

The story illustrates that we can waste an amazing amount of time, energy and resources wishing for possessions, relationships and achievements.

When we do this, we fail to enjoy God’s immediate gifts. Our Lord desires that we savor each moment of every day.

It is only when we see God in the *now* moments of our lives that we can truly recognize His work in our future.

– Beecher Hunter