

Starting With Nothing

A pompous city man, turned farmer, was showing a young boy over his acreage. As they drove through field after field, the man bragged incessantly about his accomplishments – how he had started from scratch as a young man and worked his way up through the business world.

He explained how he had earned far more money than had been necessary to purchase the land, and how he had invested thousands upon thousands of dollars to transform the formerly worthless farm into the agricultural paradise they were surveying. He told of the amazing yield of his crops, and the lushness of the new spring planting.

Finally, he pointed toward the stacked hay, the full granary and the boxes of produce and declared, “And I grew it all by myself, sonny. Started with nothing, and now look at it!”

“From nothing?” echoed the lad, duly impressed. “That’s right,” said the man, “from nothing.”

“Wow,” the young boy exclaimed, pausing to reflect for a few seconds. “My dad farms, but he needs seed to grow his crops.”

The story proves the truth of an old saying: A man wrapped up in himself makes a very small package.

--Beecher Hunter