

The Poor Man Fishing

A wealthy man spent his days fishing in the lake beside his mansion. Every day, on the same lake, he saw a poor man who lived in a rickety shack. The poor man fished with a stick and some string. He sat only an hour or so, rarely catching more than two fish, then went home.

The years passed and, frustrated from too much thinking, the rich man approached the poor man. "Please excuse me," he said, "but we've seen each other fishing here for years, and I'm curious. You sit here every day catching only a few fish and then head home. I couldn't help but wonder why you don't stay longer."



The poor man listened quietly as the rich man continued, "You see, if you just stayed one or two hours more each day, you could sell your extra fish in town. You could get enough money for a better fishing rod, then catch more fish. You could eventually get a boat and a net. Then, with even more fish, you could hire another man and another boat. Soon, you would not even have to be on the boats all day; you could have a huge company earning a lot of money. Then, you could easily spend your days fishing alone, for only as long as you would like, doing what you want with no worries."

"But, sir, I don't understand," said the poor man. "That's what I do now."

Understanding and following God's plan for our life, and being content with it, is to live the richest life of all.

Godliness actually is a means of great gain, when accompanied by contentment (1 Timothy 6:6).

– Beecher Hunter