

SPARINGNESS AND MEANNESS

Few honored people decided to help one family of orphans and begun collecting donations, for which they visited people's houses. Thus they came to one really rich man. This man left them in the yard and then they heard this men yelling at his worker for he forgot to hide little piece of rope.

The rich man told the worker: – You do not know, despite this is small rope, it is thing bought for money, and money are really hard to earn.

After those men saw and heard that, they all begun to think, what should they do in that case. The man, who came into such anger because of some forgotten piece of rope, was unlikely to donate anything, and they even considered it better to leave and not to waste their time and words.

But then one of them decided: - We have nothing to lose. As long as we are here already, let us tell this man what our case is.

To that they agreed, so they came up to rich men, and gave him a bow. Bay asked them to enter politely. After he heard their story, he gave him two times more money than everybody before him on the spot and even promised to provide that family with few sacks of grain.

Men were really surprised with his behavior and after hesitating for some time, they told him how they took him for a man very mean. For that rich man replied, "Because I do not neglect my possessions, no matter how small they are, I have a possibility now to help poor and weak people. For if somebody is sparing, he is not necessarily mean."

Task 1. Which Title Fits Best?

1. The Importance of Being Frugal: Lessons from a Wealthy Man
2. How a Forgotten Piece of Rope Changed Everything
3. The Power of Generosity: A Surprising Encounter with a Rich Man

Task 2. Read the text and fill in the gaps with the words in the box.

possibility already rich man little piece
heard left them those men saw

1. Thus they came to one really _____
_____.

2. Man _____ them in the yard and then they heard this men yelling at his worker for he forgot to hide _____ of rope.

3. After _____ and _____ that, they all begun to think, what should they do in that case.

4. As long as we are here _____, let us tell this man what our case is.

5. I have a _____ now to help poor and weak people.

Task 3. Read the text again and answer the questions true false.

1. The honored people collected donations for themselves. T F

2. The rich man yelled at his worker for forgetting a small piece of rope. T F

3. The rich man donated money and sacks of grain to the orphans' family. T F

4. The rich man was considered mean by the honored people. T F

5. The honored people decided to leave without telling the rich man their case. T F

6. The rich man believed in sparing his possessions. T F

7. The rich man was unwilling to help poor and weak people. T F