

## The precious pearl

(Matthew 13:45-46)

Key words

Merchant: People to see, deals to do!

Pearls: Beautiful darling!

Travelled: (pat knees)

Once there was a merchant (People to see, deals to do!) who bought and sold pearls (Beautiful darling!). He travelled (pat knees) many miles looking for the finest pearls (Beautiful darling!) that could be made into necklaces, ear rings, brooches and lots of other jewellery or ornaments. Pearls (Beautiful darling!) had made the merchant (People to see, deals to do!) rich, very rich. He had everything he wanted and could travel (pat knees) wherever he wanted to go. You would expect wouldn't you that this made the merchant (People to see, deals to do!) happy, very happy. But despite all the wealth that his pearls (Beautiful darling!) had brought him, the merchant (People to see, deals to do!) was not happy, in fact he was not happy at all.

The merchant (People to see, deals to do!) knew that somewhere in the world was the perfect pearl (Beautiful darling!) The most perfect pearl (Beautiful darling!) that there could ever be, and he knew that this was the only thing that would make him happy. So the merchant (People to see, deals to do!) travelled (pat knees) far and wide looking for the pearl (Beautiful darling!) of pearls (Beautiful darling!).

Then one day, in a far off place, he stopped and stared. He stopped and stared at the biggest, the roundest, the shiniest, the whitest, the most perfect pearl (Beautiful darling!) he had ever seen. It made his heart skip a beat and he felt the strangest feeling inside, and he knew that he must have the pearl (Beautiful darling!).

The merchant (People to see, deals to do!) travelled (pat knees) back home as quickly as he could and immediately sold all that he had. His house, his fine clothes, his jewels and paintings. He sold it all and, taking the money, he travelled (pat knees) all the way back to that far away place. He looked at the pearl (Beautiful darling!), he handed over his money, every penny that he had, and then he picked up the pearl (Beautiful darling!), his pearl (Beautiful darling!), the perfect pearl (Beautiful darling!). And as he did so that strange feeling came back. It started in his feet and ran up to the top of his head, and as he walked away with the pearl (Beautiful darling!) in his hands, he started to smile. For the first time ever he was happy! He had no house, no fine clothes, no jewels or paintings, but he had the pearl (Beautiful darling!). His pearl (Beautiful darling!), the perfect pearl (beautiful darling!).

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