The

Pearl

This story is about a beautiful pearl. This particular pearl wasn't carefully kept in a jewelry box; neither was it hanging around the neck of a fine lady.

The owner simply didn't like pearls. In her eyes it was just a worthless object, and so she threw it carelessly out onto the street.

A man noticed the pearl lying there, picked it up and stuck it in his pocket, thinking that it could possibly bring him good luck. But he eventually forgot about the pearl and at sometime or another it fell out of his pocket and onto the ground.

Many people stepped on it or kicked it as they walked by. There wasn't much left of the original shine and beauty that had at one time characterized it. It simply lay there, stepped on, unnoticed, dirty, humiliated...

Finally, a car ran over it and pressed it deeply into the ground. It could no longer be seen. It seemed hopeless and no one heard the pearl's cry for help.

One day however it noticed that the ground around it was moving. It became afraid — what was happening?

The pearl felt a hand reaching in for it. It heard an exclamation of joy and looked up into loving eyes. Such warmth! Such light! Someone was holding it very carefully. They took it and washed all the dirt away, and the pearl began to shine and glow. It felt it's worth and beauty being cleansed and restored!

It felt new!

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

Matthew 13:45

J esus, the Son of God, is like the merchant. He left the glory of Heaven and came to Earth in order to search for you! You are this pearl. He loves you just the way you are and gave everything, including his very life in order to set you free from all guilt and shame..

J esus desires to give you your worth back. You are loved, accepted and precious in His eyes. He wants to bring you to a safe place — a place where you can truly live. This story is true, and you can experience it yourself, when you place your faith and trust in him.