

The Real Santa Claus



About 1600 years ago, there lived a Bishop (a very important person in the church) named Nicholas. He lived in a country we now call Turkey.

1. Where did Bishop Nicholas live?

Spain

The North Pole

Turkey

Greenland

Bishop Nicholas was a very rich man because his parents had died when he was young and left him a lot of money. He was also a very kind man and often helped the poor by giving them secret gifts.

2. Who left Bishop Nicholas a lot of money?

Father Christmas

His parents

His brother

His sister

3. How did Bishop Nicholas help the poor?

Not far away from the home of Nicholas, there lived a very poor man and his three daughters.

One day, Nicholas was walking by the poor man's house when he overheard the man's daughters. They were very upset because they were so poor that nobody wanted to marry them.

4. How many daughters did the poor man have?

One

Two

Three

Four

5. Why were the poor man's daughters upset?

Bishop Nicholas felt so sorry for the sisters that he decided to help them. That night, he tiptoed back to their house and threw a large bag of gold coins down their chimney.

6. What did Bishop Nicholas throw down the chimney?

The next morning the sisters woke up and found the bag of gold. Now the eldest sister could get married. And that's exactly what happened. She had a lovely wedding and everyone was happy.

7. Who was able to get married?

The youngest sister

The eldest sister

Bishop Nicholas

Santa Claus

Some time later, Nicholas was again walking by the poor man's house and once again, he heard the unhappy voices of the two remaining sisters.

"No one will marry us because we are so poor!" They sobbed.

8. Why were the two sisters sobbing?

Once again, Nicholas felt sorry for the sisters and decided to help them. That night, he tiptoed back to their house and threw a large bag of gold coins down their chimney.

9. What did Nicholas do when he heard the two sisters sobbing?

The next morning the sisters woke up and found the bag of gold. Now the second sister could get married. And that's exactly what happened. She had a lovely wedding so everyone was happy.

10. Why was everyone happy?

A few weeks later, Nicholas was again taking a walk past the poor man's house and yet again, he heard an unhappy voice. It was the sad and lonely voice of the youngest sister. "No one will marry us because I am so poor!" She sobbed.

11. Which sister was sobbing?

Again, Nicholas felt sorry for the poor girl and decided to help her. That night, he tiptoed back to her house but this time, just as he was about to throw a bag of gold coins down the chimney, the poor girl's father heard him and caught him by the arm.

12. Who caught Nicholas by the arm?

The youngest sister.

The sister's husband.

The eldest sister.

The poor girl's father.

“At last I've found out who's been leaving those bags of gold! How can I ever thank you?” said the poor man.
“I don't want any thanks!” replied Nicholas.

13. What did Nicholas say he didn't want?

The father tried very hard to thank the Bishop, but Nicholas insisted that he should not thank him. Instead he should thank God because God had given Nicholas the money to use in kind and helpful ways.

And so, the two men both agreed and Nicholas went on his way.

14. Why did Nicholas want the father to thank God?

Soon after, the third sister had a lovely wedding and everyone was happy.

It did not take long for the news about the kindness of Bishop Nicholas to travel across the land and when anyone received a secret gift, they knew it must be from Nicholas.

Because of his kindness, Nicholas was made a Saint and that is why, from that day to this, children believe that Saint Nicholas travels the world at Christmas time, giving presents to those who deserve them.

15. Did the third sister get married?

16. Why was Nicholas made a Saint?

Draw a picture of your favourite part of the story.