

Vietnamese Focus Group, story 4

R: Many story. Next story maybe I'll go. Same idea, same moral, but maybe a lot of detail.

R: Okay, this story I call it The Golden Star Fruit Tree. I think in your country they have it too, right?

R: The star fruit tree.

R: The fruit tree. But also they put the golden in front, that's why it has some gold in this story too. This one very rich man, very rich, who live in the village, he die. He have two sons. The two sons inherit a lot of money, gold. But two sons are very different. One, the older, the older one was greedy. The younger one was very kind.

Moderator: The elder one was what?

R: Greedy. So the older one sat down with the all of the fortune that is his, and left for the younger only a tree, the star fruit tree. They all have wife. So the older one is all set up about that, so he don't worry anything, but the younger one very worry, so he have to base on the tree for living. So he take care of the tree and make the tree and day after day it get bigger and had a lot of fruit. And one day the raven come and eat a lot of fruit from his tree. And he feel very sad. He say, "Why you eat?" The raven didn't say anything, but the raven keep coming every day and eat that. So finally, he had to say, "Raven, please don't eat my fruit because that the only thing I have." So the raven said, "Don't worry. I will pay you back with gold." And the raven also said, "Okay, prepare for bag about 60 cm long and wide about three pounds. And wait for tomorrow morning, I will come back and bring you to get the gold."

So the next morning the raven come back and put him on his back and fly over the sea to the island, to the cave, something like that, and get a lot of gold. And the younger one fill with gold, come back, and he fly back to home. And when he get home, he now he . . . So he very happy and now he remember his brother. So he contact his brother and invite him to his house. And his brother say, "No. I don't want to go." Because his brother say, "This guy poor. I don't need to go there." But he keep inviting him and say, "I have something for you." So finally, the elder come and then he surprised to see his brother now very big house, have a lot of things in the house, and very healthy. So he asked him why he got that. So the younger one tell him the truth, they have the tree and then the raven come and like that. So the other elder one say, "Okay, now I want to do that."

So he want to trade the tree with my property. So then he trade that and then he give his . . . he waiting now, he have the tree. And then everyday he come and wait for the raven coming. The raven will finally come and eat a lot of fruit. He say the same thing, "Raven, don't eat my fruit." The raven say, "Okay, I will pay you back with gold. Prepare a bag with three pounds and 60 cm something. I will pick it up and you will get the gold." But we know the elder one is very greedy, so he doesn't make the bag pounds, he make it six. So bigger, so he can get more gold. So next day the raven come, carry him, fly over the sea, get to the island to get the gold. And he filled with gold.

R: He put the gold in the pocket and everywhere.

R: He just filled up and loaded with gold.

R: He climbed up to the back of the raven and fly back over to the land, to his house. But, when he fly to the sea and go for a couple minutes, it too heavy, overweight for the raven. So the raven have to be gone down and leave him off the back, and he dropped to the sea. And died there. He don't get gold, because he say, "Let go, let go." He don't want to let go of the gold. He keep going, get heavy, and then he fall down.

R: So the moral of that story . . .

R: And then the younger one waiting for his brother, and saying, "Why is it so long he's not come back?" And day after he met the raven and asked the raven why he not come back, and raven tell him the story. He keep the gold and then he fell down.

Moderator: So now the younger brother gets both the properties and the tree.

R: So the moral is the same, when you grab all things, then you lose everything.

R: Don't be greedy.

Moderator: Don't take more than three pounds.

R: That's the back?

R: No, bag. In the old time, they make bag like this. The raven gives an instruction to make a bag . . .

Moderator: I would get very little gold if I was on that raven.

R: Not one pound, you have three pounds.

R: That's . . . ?

Moderator: This is only one. See, this is what I want inside mine. I would be very poor but very happy. I would be very happy with my three pounds. I would not die and live very modestly with my three pounds.

R: Great story.