

Human Values - Lesson 4

Today, let's learn about Right Action! This is also called Right Conduct. Right action means truthful action or truth in motion!

When we do something, it's because we have a thought first, right? First comes the thought, and then comes the action. If we don't think, we won't act.

Some people have very strong will power, don't they? They have the thought, I am going to do this, and they achieve it, no matter what. That is called strong will power. We want to develop strong will power, so whatever good action we want to do, we will achieve it.

Today's lesson is on -

Human Value: Right Action / Right Conduct

Sub Value: Obedience

Objective: To understand that when parents or elders tell us to do or not to do something, there is a good reason behind it

Quotation: *"Let me learn to listen to others, not only because they may be wiser than I am, but also because they love me"*

Story – The Fisherman's Daughter

Long, long ago there lived a poor fisherman with his wife and a young daughter, Lena. Lena was a happy and cheerful girl. Her parents loved her very much and she also served them well with respect and devotion. Every day she would get up early and prepare breakfast for her old mother and father, and then help her mother with all the household chores in a joyful manner. Leena's father had given her a little wooden boat called Banca. The big blue sea stretching out for miles in front of their small cottage always fascinated her. Lena loved to go out in Banca exploring in her spare time.

One day as usual after finishing her work she took her boat and went out exploring. She brought home a strange kind of seaweed when she returned home, and showed it to her parents with excitement. When her parents saw what she had brought, they asked her where she had found it. She explained, pointing in the direction of some

distant hills, that she had discovered it in the most beautiful cove at the foot of the rocky mountains.

Her father was shocked. He understood that Lena had been to the cove where deep beneath the smooth surface of the water was a dangerous whirlpool that sucks unsuspecting swimmers down into the ocean, never to return. Immediately he shouted, "That is an evil place Lena, you must never go there again. People say that the God of this ocean likes to sleep in that cove, and if anyone disturbs him, he will punish them. Promise me that you will not go there again". Lena laughed "There is no God father, but only a few strange fishes and plants."

But her father repeated the same warning again and requested her not to go there again. Not wanting to disobey her father, Lena did not go to the cove for many days. But one day when she was out in her Banca the fascination to see the beautiful place was too strong. "It is only an old wives tale," she told to herself and steered her boat in that direction.

Deep down in the bottom of the sea, the God of the ocean had seen Lena. He had lost his little daughter only a few days back and when he saw Lena he was reminded so much of her. He decided at once to send his servant to bring Lena to him. The servant as per his masters' order caught hold of the little boat and dragged it down a secret passage to the ocean bed. At first the little girl was very much frightened, but she soon became interested in the wonderful sights around her. Gaily-colored fish of all shapes and sizes danced and played around her. Strangely enough she could understand their language. She found herself in the magnificent kingdom of the God of the ocean.

Suddenly there was a loud noise and a huge bronze colored figure appeared in front of her. He said, "Don't be afraid, I am the God of this ocean and I have brought you here to be my daughter." Lena felt very confused and said: "But I have a mother and father, and they need me very much. I must return to them immediately." At first the God of the ocean got angry, as he was not used to being disobeyed, but then he softened. He told her that she would live in comfort, in a beautiful silver palace and have many servants to get her anything she wanted. However much she protested, he would not listen. He put her under the care of a maid.

The God of ocean and his subjects did everything to keep Lena happy and amused but Lena was horribly homesick. She missed her parents terribly and knew how much they

must be suffering without her. The maid who was taking care of Lena felt sorry for her because she too like Lena was brought to the underwater kingdom against her will. She decided to help Lena. She put a sleeping potion into the guard's food and with the help of a friend who knew the way back to the land of humans, got Lena and her boat on to the surface of the sea. As soon as the Ocean God realized what had happened he woke up and ordered his servant to bring the girl back. Due to the effect of the sleeping potion, the servant was slow in his action. Just as he tried to grab Lena's boat, Lena's father and the other fishermen who had been searching for her all this time, rescued her.

Mother, father, and daughter were reunited. With tears of joy Lena embraced her Mother and Father, and resolved never to disobey her parents or any elders again.

Questions:

- What did Lena like to do in her spare time?
- What did she bring home from the cove?
- Why did her father not want her to go to the cove?
- What happened when she went to the cove second time?
- Who helped her to escape from Sea God? Why?
- Do you sometimes want to disobey your parents?
- What usually happens when you disobey your parents?
- Why are parents and teachers also telling us what to do?
- What are the five basic values?
- **What is the moral of this lesson?**

Sloka for this week – Shiva Slokam

**Karpooora-gauram karuna-avataram
Samsara-saaram Bhujagendra-haaram
Sadaa-vasantam Hridaya-aravinde
Bhavam Bhavaneesahitam Namami**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAA2LMhXons&feature=related>

Meaning:

White as camphor, compassion incarnate, the essence of creation, adorned with the garland of Brahman, ever dwelling in the lotus of my heart, the creative impulse of cosmic life, to That, I bow down.

Guess the picture - Connect the dots and color it

