

Human Values - Lesson 6

We have been learning about Human Values and their importance in our day to day life for quite some time in our Bal Vikas classes. How many of you remember the five basic human values?

Those are

- TRUTH
- LOVE
- PEACE
- RIGHT ACTION
- NON-VIOLENCE



Let's learn another Human Values lesson on Right Action in today's class. As we learned earlier, ***Right Action means truthful action or truth in motion! When we do something, it's because we have a thought in our mind first. 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. 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

Sub Value: Self Help

Objective: To emphasize that one should first put his/her efforts first before praying for divine help.

Quotation: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves

Story – Self Help Draws Divine Help

Once there lived in a village, a simpleton and an ardent devotee of Lord Hanuman, called Govind. He was the proud owner of two fine bullocks and a cart, with the help of which he used to transport people and materials from the village to the town and thus earn his living. He was always interested to hear about God and stories from the Holy Scriptures. Hence he never missed a chance to listen to discourses rendered by saints. Once, while returning from the market in the evening, he saw a big gathering under a tree. A saint was addressing some villagers about God and His Grace. The saint said, "God is kindness, love, strength, and power. Call upon God whenever you are in trouble and your strength fails you; God will never forsake you."

Govind felt very happy with what he heard. One rainy day, Govind was driving his bullock cart filled with wheat bags. He had gone only a short distance when both the wheels of the cart got stuck in the mud. Suddenly, Govind remembered the saint's words and began to pray sincerely with folded hands, "Oh! Hanumanji, please come and push my cart out of the slush." He prayed continuously for some time, but Hanuman did not appear before him. Disappointed he rushed to the saint and said, "Maharaj! You have fooled us all. My cart is stuck in the mud. I prayed to God several times for help, but my prayers were all in vain. God never came."

The saint patiently heard Govind and said, "My dear son, didn't I tell you that God comes to your help only after you have first tried with all your strength? Did you make an effort to help yourself?" Govind realized his mistake and ran back to his cart. He put his shoulders to one of the wheels and urged the bullock to pull the cart. As he pushed the wheel with all his strength, Govind felt someone was helping him push the other wheel with much greater force. Govind immediately recognized the presence of the Divine. Soon the bullocks started drawing the cart as the wheels came out of the mud. With all devotion Govind began to sing a bhajan expressing his gratitude to Lord Hanuman.

Like Govind one must always use his intelligence and strength before praying for God's help. Surely, then God will do the needful. God helps those who help themselves.

Questions:

- Is Govind a good man?
- Does he believe in God?
- Why did not God appear when Govind first prayed for help?
- When did God help Govind? And why?
- When do you need God's help?
- Does God help everyone? And when?

Human Value: *Right Action*

Sub Value: *Not to Quarrel*

Objective: *To make children understand that one stands to lose by quarreling.*

Quotation: *Hatred Sprouts, Envy Raises Its Hood; Love sprouts, Peace Descends like Dew*

Story – The Clever and Cunning Cat

Children who are well behaved make friends very quickly. Good children rarely become angry or quarrelsome. Children with good behavior are liked and admired by everyone.

Being quarrelsome is not only a bad quality but a harmful one too. Here is a story, which illustrates this.

A squirrel once lived in the hollow of the tree for a long time. She loved her home. One day she left her home to look for food and she came across a nut tree. "Aha!" she said, "Nuts are my favorite food". She quickly climbed on the tree and started eating them.

The little squirrel was so fond of nuts that she remained on the tree for several days. At last the nuts were all finished "let me go back home," she thought, "I have been away for long."

However when the squirrel was away for a long time, a little mouse had happily made his home in the hollow of the tree. When the squirrel returned she was surprised to find the mouse living in her house.

"What are you doing in my house?" she asked angrily.

"What do you mean your house?" replied the mouse. "This hollow was empty when I came. Now this belongs to me. It is my house now."

"I had gone to live on a nut tree for a while. That does not give you the right to move into my house. Now you better get out before I really get angry," cried the squirrel.

"I do not care whether you are angry or not. I shall not leave my house," said the mouse.

Hearing the squirrel and the mouse quarrel, all the animals gathered around. "Why don't you let a judge decide as to whom the house belongs?" said the deer.

"That's a good idea," said the squirrel and the mouse together. So they both searched far and wide for a good judge.

At last they came across a cat. He looked very old and learned.

"This looks like a wise cat to me. Let's go and ask him to sort our quarrel," said the squirrel.

"No!" cried the mouse, "this cat may kill us."

The cat heard what the mouse and the squirrel were talking about.

"Here is my chance for a good lunch," he thought. He quickly closed his eyes and pretended to pray.

"This looks like a holy cat to me," said the squirrel, "I don't think he will harm us."

"Yes!" said the mouse, "see how hard he is praying."

"Please sir," said the mouse and the squirrel together. "Will you settle our quarrel?"

The old cat opened his eyes and said, "Yes, God will help me to decide who is right and who is wrong. Tell me what your problem is."

So the squirrel and the mouse started telling the cat what had happened.

"I am very old," said the cunning cat. "I can't hear very well. Can you both come a little closer?"

The squirrel and the mouse moved a little closer to the cat "I still can't hear anything," said the cat "please come a little closer."

The foolish squirrel and mouse moved even closer to the cat and before they knew what was happening, the cat grabbed them with his paws and quickly ate them up.

Therefore being quarrelsome is not only a bad quality but harmful too. If we argue with others, we also will get caught in difficult problems, just like the mouse and the squirrel.

Questions:

- What is squirrel fond of?
- Why did the squirrel and the mouse quarrel?
- What did the cat do?
- What lesson do you learn from this story?
- Have you ever seen two people of your own age quarreling? Do they look silly or smart?
- If you have a disagreement with someone, is it better to argue or to find a solution?
- Shakespeare said "He convinced against his will is of the same opinion still." What do you think he meant?
- Is it better to convince someone with logic or love?
- Do people like it when you argue and tell them they are wrong?

Daily Slokas:

Ganesh Sloka:

*Vakra Tunda Mahaa Kaaya; Suryakoti Samaprabha
Nirvighnam Kurume Deva; Sarvakaaryeshu Sarvadaa*

Saraswati Stotra:

*Saraswathi Namasthubyam; Varade Kamaroopini
Vidyarambham Karishyami; Siddhir Bhavatume Sada*

Guru Stotra:

*Gurur Brahmaa Gurur Vishnu; Gurur Devo Maheshwarah
Guruh Saakshaat Parabrahma; Tasmai Shree Gurave Namah*

Vishun Stotra:

*Shuklambharadharam Vishnum Shashivarnam Chaturbhujam
Prasanna Vadanm Dhyayet Sarva Vignopa Shantaye*

Rama Mantra:

*Sri Rama Rama Rameti, Rame Rame Manorame
Sahasranama tattulyam, Rama Nama Varanane*

Durga Stotra:

*Om Sarva Mangala Maangalye Shive Sarvaartha Saadhike
Sharanye Triyambake Gauri, Naaraayani Namostute*

Hanuman Mantra:

*Manojavam Maarutatulyavegam; Jitendriyam Buddhimataam Varistham
Vaataatmajam Vaanarayoothamukhyam; Sriramadootam Sirasa Namami*

Matru Devo Bhava Sloka:

*Maathru Devo Bhava; Pitru Devo Bhava
Acharya Devo Bhava; Athidhi Devo Bhava*

Morning Prayers:

*Karaagre Vasate Lakshmi; Kara Madhye Saraswathi
Kara Moole Tu Govinda; Prabahate Kara Darshanam*

*Gange cha Yamune chaiva Godavari Saraswati,
Narmade Sindhu Kaveri jalesmin sannidhim kuru*

Jumble Words – All words are from this lesson

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