

LESSON 16

ROHIT LEARNS TO BE MERCIFUL

Rohit enters all beaten up. He puts some Band-Aids on his wounds and a sling around one arm.

ROHIT: I feel awful. I borrowed Manish's brand new blue bicycle, and I ran into the tree with it. I promised that I would guard it with my life. Oh, no, here he comes.

MANISH: Rohit, are you hurt? What happened? Is there anything I can do for you?

ROHIT: I had an accident. I am all right.

MANISH: I am glad that you were not hurt too badly.

ROHIT: No, I am not hurt that bad just a little sore.

MANISH: I just came by to get my bike. My cousins are here and they want to see it.

ROHIT: I think it is in my backyard.

MANISH: What do you mean?

ROHIT: Well, I last saw it in my backyard.

(Manish goes to the backyard).

MANISH: What is back fender doing there?

ROHIT: The front fender is next door in the neighbor's yard. The tires are in the tree. The chain is in the alley, and the handlebars are in Tejal's yard.

MANISH: What! You mean to tell me that you ruined my bike?

ROHIT: I ruined your new bike. Please do not be angry with me.

MANISH: Don't worry. I am glad that at least you are alive.

ROHIT: You mean you forgive me?

MANISH: Yes, I forgive you. I am sad but I can't blame you.

ROHIT: Really! Wow! You are a true friend.

(Manish walks to the yard.)

TEJAL: The poor tree. I hope that it's not hurt, because you sure did hit it hard.

ROHIT: Accident happens to everybody.

TEJAL: That is exactly what I came to talk to you about.

ROHIT: Did you have a bicycle accident also?

TEJAL: No, not a wreck, just an accident. Do you remember the Spider man comic book I borrowed yesterday? Well, I don't know how to say this.

ROHIT: You didn't ruin it or lose it, did you?

TEJAL: Well, not exactly.

(Manish enters from the side and watches quietly)

ROHIT: I love that comic book.

TEJAL: It's not my fault. My little sister and the dog did it. My sister spilled water on it and then when she put it out to dry and my dog chewed up the wet book.

ROHIT: What did you say to her? That was my favorite comic book. (He began chasing Tejal and ready to hit her)

MANISH: Rohit? What are you doing?

ROHIT: I was just playing with Tejal. I really was.

TEJAL: No, he was not.

MANISH: Rohit, did you forget the lesson we learned about mercy in our Jain pathshala? I remembered it and I forgave you for messing up my bicycle. Can't you forgive Tejal about the comic book? The book only cost twenty-five cents and my bike was a lot more than \$100.

ROHIT: Oh yes. Tejal, I'm sorry that I lost my temper. Don't worry about the comic book. I am not upset anymore. Things can happen. Thank you, Manish, for helping me remember the right things to do.

(Rohit and Manish leave.)