

LESSON 21

FRIENDLINESS (MAITRI BHAVANA)

Father: Ramesh, do you like your friends?

Ramesh: Papa everybody likes their friends.

Father: Why?

Ramesh: Because, all friends love each other. If my friends know that I need help they will help me. Papa, would you tell me how could I make more friends?

Father: Son, you like those who help you and love you. Similarly other kids are looking for help and love. When you meet kids in your school or in the neighborhood you should be nice to them. You should help them. Then, they will become your friends. It is not always necessary that you have to help someone so they will be your friends. Even if you praise the good work they have done you can make new friends. You should not ever be mean to anyone nor say rude words to anyone, and you should not be jealous of anyone. You should always wish the very best for everyone.

If you see a kid in your neighborhood that is sad you should comfort him and offer him/her your help.

If your classmate is doing badly in school you should tutor him/her. These are some things that will help you make more friends. But you have to be careful when you make friends.

Ramesh: Papa, what should I be careful about?

Father: You should be careful about selecting your friends. For example you do not want to have a friendship with people who use drugs, who are bullies, or who are arrogant. We should not dislike them but just stay away from them. We should also stay away from those students or people who have bad habits.

Ramesh: Can you tell me what a good friend is?

Father: A good friend helps his friends in need. He loves and admires his friends. He appreciates the good work done by his friends and whenever he gets a chance he praises it. A good friend keeps his friends away from bad activities. He only supports things that are good for others. A good friend keeps secrets told to him by his friends. A good friend forgives others for their mistakes. He wishes good for everybody. So make sure that you are such a friend and stay in the company of good friends.

Ramesh: Yes, father. I will try to be a good friend to everyone.