

NAMO BUDDHAYA!!!

Children's Dhamma Program

Noble Dhamma for Little Hearts

The Story of Matthakundali

Dear children, today we are going to learn The Story of Matthakundali, In this story, you will learn the result of having a compassionate mind.

A young Brahmin boy was living in Savatthi while our Lord Buddha was residing at the Jetavana monastery in the same area. This boy's father, Adinnapubbaka, was a very wealthy but a stingy person. He didn't spend money even for essential things. Although Matthakundali was the only son of Adinnapubbaka, he never spends much money for



him. Even the ornaments for Adinnapubbaka's only son were made by himself to save payment for workmanship. As this Brahmin boy was wearing cheaply made earrings made by his father, he was called as "Matthakundali (wearing cheaply made earrings).

Once his son Matthakundali fell ill, no doctor was consulted, and he was not treated properly because Adinnapubbaka didn't want to spend

money on the medications. As a result, Matthakundali's condition became severe. When Adinnapubbaka realized that his son was going to die, he kept his son on the porch, so that the people coming to his house to see his sick son, would not see his wealthy possessions.

Supreme Buddha saw Matthakundali's situation from his divine eye and knew that if he helps him to have a compassionate mind even in the last moment of his life, Matthakundali will be born in heaven after death. Therefore, our Supreme Buddha went to help him and stood near the doorstep of Adinnapubbaka's house. However,

Mattakundali was facing the other way and didn't see the Supreme Buddha. So Buddha sent forth a ray of light to get his attention. He turned his face slowly towards the side of the light. Mattakundali saw the Buddha; as he was very weak to speak, he could only admit his faith only in his mind. He thought even though no one loved and cared for him; the Buddha came to see him. He was very happy and spread loving kindness towards his parents and held no anger towards his parents. Within few minutes, he passed away and was reborn in heaven.

Mattakundali who was born in the heaven saw his father mourning over him at the cemetery. Mattakundali thought to help his father to become a good person. He appeared at the cemetery as a child so his father could see him, And started to cry. Adinnapubbaka wondered why this kid was crying and asked why he was crying. The boy replied that he needs two wheels for his cart. Adinnapubbaka said that he would make two wheels in gold or silver for him. Then the boy said, I want the sun and the moon as my wheels. Adinnapubbaka laughed and said, "Oh my dear child, how can you have the sun and the moon as your wheels?" Are you foolish? Then the Kid said, "I am crying for something that I can see. You are crying for something that you cannot see. So who is foolish now?" Adinnapubbaka was shocked with this reply and wondered who this child was. Mattakundali then appeared in his celestial form as a divine prince and told his father about his rebirth in heaven because of the Buddha's compassion. He asked his father to take refuge in Buddha and to collect merit by been generous. Thereafter, Adinnapubbaka took the refuge in Buddha and became a very generous person. He started to spend his wealth for charity and collected lot of merits.

The Supreme Buddha taught this stanza,

**Manopubbaṅgamā dhammā - manoseṭṭhā manomayā
Manasā ce pasannena - bhāsati vā karoti vā
Tato naṃ sukhamanveti - chāyāva anapāyini.**

The Mind leads all actions in this life; The Mind is their chief and makes all decisions. If you speak or act with a calm, pure mind, then happiness follows you, like a shadow that never leaves.

Dear children, please try to remember this story and always be kind and generous to others, Do good deeds with a pure mind. Then happiness will follow you like a shadow.

Lone Star Buddhist Meditation Center