

You should practise before you preach



‘ఆవు చేలో మేస్తే దూడ గట్టున
మేస్తుందా’ అని సామెత. తండ్రి పాగ తాగుతూ
కొడుకును వద్దనడమూ ఇలాంటి
వ్యవహారమే. ఒకవేళ తండ్రికి భయపడి
కొడుకు సిగరెట్ ముట్టనని మాట ఇచ్చినా,
దాన్ని పాటించడం కష్టమే.
ఇలాంటప్పుడు భయం కంటే నమ్మకమే
మనిషిని మంచిదారిలో నడిపిస్తుంది.
అందుకే ఎదుటివారికి ఏదైనా
బోధించేటప్పుడు తాను దానిని ఆచరించి
చూపాలి. ఈ సంభాషణ
సారాంశమూ ఇదే.

Father: But I am your father. I have the right to tell you the good things of life.

ఇంగ్లీష్
మాట్లాడదాం



Son: You should practise before you preach.



He advised the boy only after giving up his own habit of eating sweets.

Father: Beta, smoking is a dangerous habit. It is injurious to health.

Son: You have told me this several times that it might cause serious diseases.

Father: Not ‘might’. It will cause many diseases.

Son: You are right, dad.

Father: Please don’t smoke, my son.

Son: No dad, I don’t smoke.

Father: What did you promise me on each occasion?

Son: That I wouldn’t smoke.

Father: Then why do you smoke?

Son: I don’t smoke, dad.

Father: Are you not afraid of me? Do you know what punishment you may get?

Son: I’m quite afraid of you. You may not pay my college fees. You may not buy me clothes.

Father: Then?

Son: You may not provide me food. You may drive me out of the house.

Father: Are you really afraid of your dad?

Son: Awfully afraid, dad.

Father: Then why do you lie that you don’t smoke?

Son: I don’t smoke, dad. I’m afraid of you.

Father: What were you doing in the backyard this morning?

Son: Shall I tell you what Sri Ramakrishna did once?

Father: Our corporator Ramakrishna?

Son: No. Ramakrishna Paramahansa. A lady came to him once. She had a grandson who ate twelve sweets a day.

Father: So what?

Son: She begged Sri Ramakrishna to advise the boy not to eat sweets in excess. She was sure the boy would follow the guru’s advice.

Father: What advice did he give?

Son: He deferred his advice. He asked the lady to come to him again in a month.

Father: Was he too busy to advise the boy then and there?

Son: She met him in a month expecting a mantra or a miracle but the guru simply asked the boy to give up eating sweets.

Father: Did he take one month to give this plain advice?

Son: Sri Ramakrishna too was fond of sweets. In one month he controlled himself.

Father: Why do you tell me this?

Son: Whenever you advised me, you held a cigarette between your fingers.

Father: But I am your father. I have the right to tell you the good things of life.

Son: You should practise before you preach.

Father: Do you ask me to give up smoking?

Son: Or else your words will fall flat. Your morals will have no conviction.

Father: But you are afraid of your father, aren’t you?

Son: Fear may suppress you for the time being. Belief will change you for good.



సూర్యారావు ఎం.వి
వివేకానంద ఇన్స్టిట్యూట్
ఆఫ్ లాంగ్వేజెస్,
రామకృష్ణ మఠం.