

Buddhism Class for Children – July 11, 2020

Instructor – Bhante Metta

The Story of Novice Monk Pandita

There was a boy named Pandita in the city of Sāvatti. He became a novice monk at the age of seven. On the eighth day after becoming a monk, he went out with the elder monk Sariputta who was his teacher at the temple. Both of them were traveling with their alms bowls in hands to collect food for the day.

Then novice monk Pandita saw a group of farmers. Those farmers were channeling water into their farms. Then he asked the elder monk, "Can we guide water to flow wherever we wish?" The elder monk replied, "Yes, if we carefully build dams and canals, we can bring water to any place we want."

As they continue their journey, monk Pandita saw a group of blacksmiths. They were making arrows.

Again, this novice monk saw a group of carpenters. They were making wooden wheels. Later he thought, these people are doing amazing things.

They guide water. They bend iron. They make furniture out of timber. What I should do? Can't I train my mind to be sharper and kinder?

Later he went to meet the Buddha. The Buddha gave him instructions to meditate. By meditating, the novice monk Pandita was able to tame and train his mind. He became a very smart and kind monk.