

IDI

Frederick was always saying, “I did it!” At first it wasn’t too bad, but after a while people tired of hearing him say that all the time.

During a basketball game, Bobby threw him the ball; he caught it and scored. He yelled, “I did it!”

When he received an A in school, he would yell, “I did it!” Everything was “I did it!”

Pretty soon everyone was calling Frederick “IDI.” Frederick did not know what it meant, but it sounded good to him, so he liked it.

One day, he asked a friend what “IDI” meant. His friend said, “It means ‘I did it!’ because that’s all you ever say.”

Frederick felt really funny. So he asked his dad if it was wrong to say, “I did it!”

His dad said, “It’s not wrong to say, ‘I did it!’ but always remember to add, ‘Thank you for your help.’”

* Review interdependent.

* Review the Nembutsu, Namo-Amidabutsu.

The feeling of “I did it” and “thank you for your help” is the real spirit of gratitude expressed by Shinran Shonin in the Nembutsu.

When we recite “Namo-Amidabutsu” it is as if we are saying in response, “Yes, you have reached me. I hear you calling me. Thank you. Thank you for helping me to remember all the things you stand for. Thank you for helping me to see your way.” It is with these feelings that we recite the Nembutsu.