

THREE FISHES

Once upon a time, there were three fishes living in a cool mountain stream. Their mother taught them all the same things and yet they were all very different. The first was very smart. He used good judgment at all times. He knew how to stay away from the fishermen and where to find the best food. Now, the second fish was only half smart. Sometimes he acted very wisely but often foolish. As for the third fish, he was very foolish. He was always taking chances and snapped at the fisherman's bait or took naps right in the middle of the stream where the water was clear and shallow.

One day a very clever fisherman came to the stream where the three fishes lived. He had a net with him. The wise fish knew what to do right away and swam away as fast as he could and hid in the ferns where he was safe. The second fish took a chance and continued to play. The net was closing in on him and then he became terribly frightened and raced this way and that. He luckily escaped the net. The third fish was such a foolish fish that he kept on playing and teasing the fisherman. He thought he was having a wonderful time. Finally he was caught in the net and was made into a wonderful dinner for the fisherman and his wife.

* Discuss about the story. - Buddhist way of life

We will not act foolishly if we listen carefully the teachings of the Buddha. We must remember to use good judgment. If we follow the Buddha's Teachings, we will not act foolishly.

* Exchange the experience of foolish act which you think.

* Discuss how the teachings help you to have a good judgment.

* Discuss what is the teaching for you.

* Discuss what is the temple for you.

* Review the Eightfold Path, Six Paramitas, Golden Chain of Love, Shinshu Pledge, Three Treasurers, etc.