



MANAVATHA NAVODAYA FOUNDATION®

Transforming with a human touch



One for four. Four for one

That's what we realize at the end of life. As an Indian practice, when we die, our dead body is carried to our grave by four people. So in essence, we must have at-least four close people who can rely on you and who you can depend on in life. Think about it. Take your time.

What is the use of human life if it cannot be useful to other human beings? We were not meant to be born in isolation. Our birth is not by chance. Our parents and well-wishers are responsible for our well-being from birth till now. We could never have survived without the selfless care of the parents, without the trust of well-wishers, or without the affection of relatives.

Once we come to this realization, it becomes evident that we too must learn to co-exist with the people around us – parents, relatives, friends, neighbours and others. To earn their respect and love, we must have the courtesy of selfless service and care. We must exhibit pleasant behaviour. We must be trust-worthy and must be ever helpful to the needs of others.

It is only in the trusted relationships that we find our support, our success and our happiness. Without them, we are nothing. We may wander our ways, thinking we are kings of our own destiny. We may rejoice in our freedom. We may rule the world. But when we are left alone or become lonely because of our own actions; and when we don't have the company of caring people in times of sickness and when our future looks dark and confused, then we realize and see how the world really is. We realize that we also need the company and guidance of elders, and the comfort of close relatives. We go through life on our own terms and sometimes defy the ones who care for us. Finally, when death is near and life comes to an end, we awake from our ignorance and pride and take human values seriously. It is then that we realize the value of relations, the cost of our behaviour and the uselessness of money.

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As the wise say in the ages gone by, we must be of use to at-least four people, because it takes four people to carry our body to our grave with the respect we deserve. It is never too late to change your ways or mend your lives. Always be close to your well-wishers. Be happy with all. Have enmity with none. Give relations a chance. Live in the wisdom of God.