

Questions for Reflection
Talk 6 Series 11

Here are some ideas for your reflections during the week:

1) First: Do you find yourself drawn to one of the first four Paramitas more than the others? If so, do you feel you have a deeper understanding of this favorite one? Try to explain your deeper understanding.

2) Second: Is there one of the first four Paramitas that you don't have much of a feeling for? Like the second one "ethical discipline." This covers the same ground as the Ten Grave Precepts, but still, many have a hard time taking these in. Name the Paramita you have the least feeling for. Does it help to see it "live" so to speak in a story? For example, in this story ethical discipline becomes "One who is virtuous gives food, help, and even his life for a friend." We saw three different versions of this lesson acted out.

3) Third: Each of us has a different style of friendship. Some people have lots of friends; some have several and some always have one best friend but that's all. What is your friendship "style?" Has this been true for your whole life? Are you happy with your style? Please elaborate.

4) Fourth: Are there other lessons to be gleaned from the Jataka Tale besides examples of the Paramitas? What other wisdom does this story hold?

5) Fifth: Explain in your own words what a "skillful mean" is and give an example from your own life of your use of one.