

Questions for Reflection

Talk 10, Series 14

Here is an idea for your reflection during the week:

When Shakyamuni Buddha was alive his legacy included his ten “foremost” disciples. That is for each primary value there emerged one of his students who excelled in that thing above and beyond all the others. So, for example, Sariputra was foremost in Wisdom and another was foremost in “spreading the dharma” and another was foremost in Courage and so forth. Let’s say there was such a thing as “foremost in ordinariness” and you wanted to compete for it. What would you say about yourself?

Just to give you an idea, here is one person’s thoughts about being the foremost disciple in ordinariness: *I find that the thing that interests me most is the details of my daily life. For example, what I choose to do on a day off is 1) wash my sheets 2) refill my soap bottles in the shower 3) put Draino down the bathroom sink 4) choose some books to give away 5) repurpose some of my clothing. Some of my friends go swim in the ocean or watch shorebirds feed but if I did that at the expense of my five things I’d feel very frustrated.*