

14. Stealing and Atonement

गांधीजी ने चोरी की कबूली देने की एक नयी सीख हमें दी है।

Lesson summary

This is a story of Mahatma Gandhi. When Gandhiji was small, he and his friend started smoking. They were imitating a family member. It was fun blowing out clouds of smoke. They stole money from a servant to buy cigarettes. Gandhiji and his friend wanted to be independent. They did not like taking permission from elders. They felt that life was not worth living. So they decided to die. They got some poisonous seeds. But didn't have the courage to eat them. They realized their mistake. So they went to a temple. They gave up the idea of dying. They also decided never to smoke and steal.

After sometime, Gandhiji wanted to repay his debt – the money taken from someone. So he stole gold from his brother's armlet. But he felt bad about stealing. He wanted to confess – admit his mistake. He knew that his father will feel bad when he hears it. Still, he wrote a letter telling father about his mistake. He also asked for punishment. He saw his father was in tears. Gandhiji knew that those tears were of pain, love and forgiveness. Thus, Gandhiji learned his first lesson of Ahimsa.