

# *Discovering the Real Me*

Student Textbook # 1  
Learning to be Good

For children 6 to 8 years of age

**The Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations**

Published in the United States of America by:  
Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace/Universal Peace Federation  
155 White Plains Road, Suite 222  
Tarrytown, NY 10591  
Telephone: 914-631-1331; Fax: 914-631-1308

Copyright © 2006 by Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace

All rights reserved. Except for use in reviews, no part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical or otherwise, without the prior written consent of the publisher. Copyright on chapters noted at the end of each chapter.

Production by the Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace/Universal Peace Federation

ISBN 1-930549-34-2

*Discovering the Real Me*  
Student Textbook #1, Learning to be Good  
For children 6 to 8 years of age

Dr. Chung Hwan Kwak  
Chairman, IIFWP/UPF

Dr. Joon Ho Seuk  
President, IEF

Editors:  
Dr. Thomas G. Walsh  
Executive Editor

Mr. Alan Saunders  
Managing Editor

Dr. Kathy Winings  
Dr. Mose Durst  
Senior Editors

Mrs. Claire Bowles  
Copy Editor

Writers:  
Mrs. Poppy Richie  
Mrs. June Saunders

Cover Designer:  
Mrs. Misook Kim

Graphic Image Designer:  
Mr. Solomon Pobanz

Layout:  
Mr. Jeff Anderson

**The Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace is an NGO in Special  
Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations**

**The stories in this text are all adapted from Aesop's famous Fables. With their animal characters, charming illustrations, and themes of human nature and morality, they make for engaging reading and learning sessions on character education.**

# Contents

<b>Preface</b> .....	xi
<b>Chapter 1</b>	
The Three Blind Men and the Elephant .....	3
<b>Chapter 2</b>	
The Farmer and the Bundle of Sticks .....	7
<b>Chapter 3</b>	
The Shepherd Boy and the Wolf .....	11
<b>Chapter 4</b>	
The Boys and the Lost Wallet .....	15
<b>Chapter 5</b>	
The Crow and the Pitcher .....	19
<b>Chapter 6</b>	
The Lion and the Gnat .....	23
<b>Chapter 7</b>	
The Dog and His Reflection .....	27
<b>Chapter 8</b>	
The Stag and His Reflection .....	31
<b>Chapter 9</b>	
The Hare and the Tortoise .....	37

**Chapter 10**

The North Wind and the Sun..... 41

**Chapter 11**

The Ant and the Dove..... 45

**Chapter 12**

The Lion and the Mouse..... 49

**Chapter 13**

The Ants and the Grasshopper..... 55

**Chapter 14**

The Two Goats ..... 63

**Chapter 15**

The Bear and the Bees..... 69

**Chapter 16**

The Goose and the Golden Egg..... 75

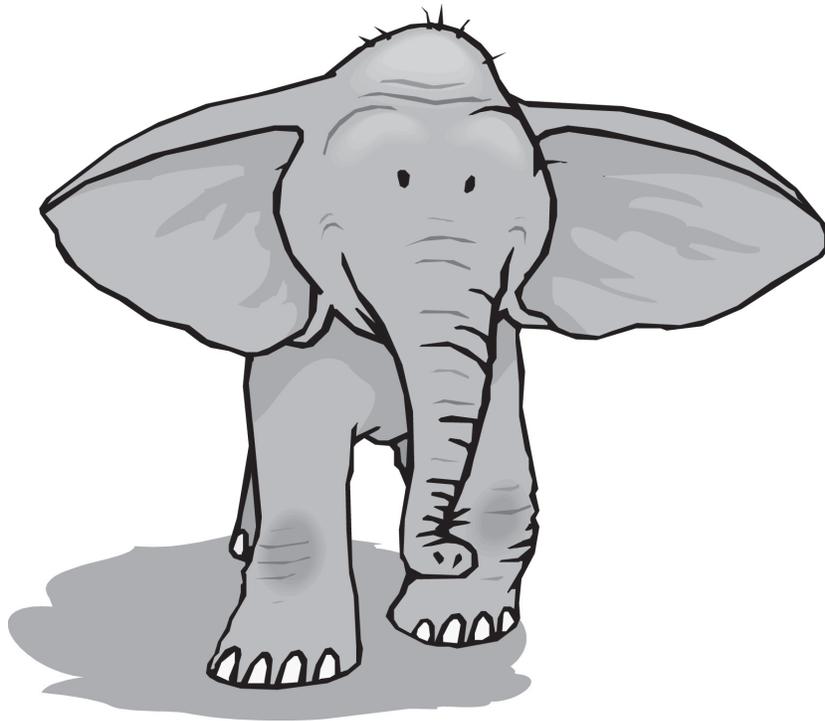
**Chapter 17**

Belling the Cat..... 81

# Chapter 1

## The Three Blind Men and the Elephant

There were three blind men who went one day together to see an elephant. None of them had ever heard of an elephant before, and they didn't even know that an elephant is an animal! They were very curious and decided to approach the elephant one at a time.



The first blind man came up to the elephant and fell against its huge side.

He said, "This elephant is very much like a wall!"

The second blind man walked up to the elephant's head and ran into the tusk. It was sharp, pointy, and smooth.

"An elephant is very much like a spear!" he shouted. "Ow!"

The third blind man approached the elephant from the side and touched its big ear.

"Wow!" he said, "An elephant is very much like a fan! I could use a fan like this on a hot day!"

Well, they argued and argued about what an elephant is, and because they wouldn't listen to or learn from one another, they never, ever found out the truth!

## LESSON PLAN OBJECTIVES

**Cognitive:**

Students will understand that things go better when there is cooperation and teamwork.

**Affective:**

Students will feel happy to work together with others to accomplish a task.

**Behavioral:**

Students will choose to work together with others to accomplish tasks at school and at home.

## Class Session 1

**Materials needed:**

- Photo, drawing, or picture of an elephant that shows all the parts that were in the story.
- A fan (a paper folded fan-like is fine)
- A board
- A plastic sword
- Three handkerchiefs or bandanas for blindfolds

Read the story to the students. Show the students a picture, photo, or drawing of an elephant that shows all the parts that were in the story. Mention that this is what an elephant really looks like.

Ask the following questions:

- Why did the first man think that the elephant was a wall?
- Why did the second man think that it was a spear?
- Why did the third think that it was a fan?
- Why do you think they argued?
- Did they ever figure out what an elephant was?

Ask students what the men in the story could have done differently so that they could have found out what an elephant was. After listening to their ideas, talk about teamwork and cooperation. Define these words as “working together like a team make something happen.” Draw a parallel to sports teams working together to achieve a goal or win a game.

Tell the student they are going to act out the story. Show them the props: a fan, a board, and a plastic sword. Ask six children to volunteer to help out. The others sit in a circle around these six children, giving them lots of space. Give the fan, the board, and the plastic sword to three students and have them stand together in the center of the circle. Put blindfolds on the other three students. The teacher narrates as the children act out the story, taking every precaution so that no one gets hurt!

*The Three Blind Men and the Elephant*

5

Try adding a new ending to the story: the three blind men hold hands and explore the elephant together and thus discover what an elephant is: an elephant is all these things and even more!

“Let’s ride it home!” they say. Remind the children of the words cooperation and teamwork.

## Class Session 2

### Materials Needed:

- Large, hand-drawn picture of an elephant
- Cut-out picture of an elephant's tail
- One handkerchief or bandana for a blindfold
- Safety push pins, tacks or tape

In another session, the teacher can lead a follow-up activity about cooperation and teamwork.

Start by asking, “Do you remember the story of the blind men and the elephant? What happened? What could the blind men have done?” Use the words teamwork and cooperation. Then ask them, “Would you like to play a game where you learn about teamwork?”

The game is “Pin the Tail on the Elephant.” Children take turns trying to find the tail and pin it on a big hand drawn elephant while blindfolded. If there is a bulletin board, this can be used to mount the picture of the elephant and children may use push pins or tacks to pin the tail on. If there is no bulletin board, a wall may be used and the drawing and tail can be fixed on with tape. An elephant could be hand-drawn on the blackboard as well, and the tail made sticky with tape.

Everyone gets a turn. Tell all the other students that no one is to say anything to a blindfolded student but should let him or her try to pin the tail on without help. Most will be unsuccessful.

Make a circle and talk about how it felt. Was it hard to do it without anyone helping them when they couldn't see? Suggest they try it again, but this time someone will give them directions, such as, “Go to your left, go to your right,” etc. Partner the students, and let them take turns pinning the tail on the elephant with a partner guiding them verbally.

Have another circle time. “How did it go this time? Was it any easier? Did you get the job done with some teamwork? Was it more fun because you could actually do it or come close?” This could lead into a discussion about where they see cooperation at school, at home, in their community.

They could end the activity by drawing pictures of themselves accomplishing something with others. It could be about teacher/student cooperation, or siblings cooperating, or people in a neighborhood helping one another.

End the activity with students displaying and describing their work. Emphasize that the class will be practicing cooperation and teamwork all year long because they are so important.