

## THE SERMON AT BENARES

Q1. A sermon is a long talk in which someone advises other people how they should behave in order to be better people. Whereas a lecture is a formal talk on a serious or specialist subject given to a group of people especially students.

Q2. A woman named Kisa Gotami had an only son and he died. She was so grief-stricken that she carried the dead child to all her neighbors asking them for some medicine that could bring her son back to life. No she didn't get it coz there is no medicine which can bring dead back to life.

Q3. After she spoke to Budha she became joyous. Budha actually asked her to get a handful of mustard seed from any house but a condition was set that no death had occurred in that house. Kisa Gotami went to procure the mustard but before and getting it, she was told that the living are few, the dead are many.

Q4. Kisa Gotami became hopeless when she couldn't procure the mustard seeds. She sat down and observed the lights of the city as they flickered up and were extinguished again. She thought to herself that the fate of all men is such that their lives flicker up and are extinguished again. She thought that she had been selfish in her grief as death is common to all.

Budha wanted her to understand that death is common to all.

Q5. Kisa Gotami understood the reality only the second time. She understood death is common to all. Budha made her realize that she had been selfish in her grief. She realized that no one could escape death. Budha made her realize if selfishness is surrendered, it is a path that could lead one to immortality.

Q6. Selfishness is to think about your own advantage. Kisa Gotami was selfish in her grief. She had not realized that death is common to all and no one could escape it. Her selfishness made her think wrongly that there would be some medicine which could bring her dead son back to life. But the fact dawned upon her that everyone has to die