

## Parable about the stone

Once upon a time there lived young man, very careless and unconscionable. His parents gave up and sent him to wise man to learn some mind and reason.

The wise man stretched out his hand and gave the swain a little oval white stone.

- Have a good look at this! Feel it! Look what coves and edges it has and how hot it is!

The young man smiled at this odd act, but looked at the stone.

- And now- throw it in the lake!

Without thinking, the disciple did the order.

Then the old man stroked his beard and said without joke.

- Your task is to find exactly this stone for tree days.

The pupil was headstrong, but started to search. He showed his teacher different stones, but not the same one. At last, he found the stone and gave it the wise man with triumph.

- Good!- he said and tried to throw it again.

- Stop!- became pale the student- What are you doing? I searched it tree days very hard!

- Ah, you noticed? There is the difference- in the beginning it was for you only simple stone, but now is precious gem, because you put into it a lot of work and heart. Go away! You have learned your lesson!

Dizzy from wise words, the young man kept firmly the stone into his hand and went to the door. But suddenly he turned back and asked.

- What I have to do with my stone now?

- The stone is symbol of the human soul with its precious gifts. This is the essence of your responsibility. What to do with gifts? We can multiply them or throw them into the lake.

- But it is probably I don't want this gift!

- So- throw the stone. Another one will find it. But think well, unless you throw with it your soul...

The disciple made a bow and since this time only good things were heard about him...

- Kostadin Iordanov Boianov

Paladin

Sofia

Bulgaria