

## ThiruppAvai Anubhavam by Kids: Moral themes in ThiruppAvai

As part of aruLiseyal class conducted by Prof. U. Ve. Gomatam Seshadri Ramkumar under the auspices of Veda Dharma Samrakshana Sabha, Charlotte, the students were requested to highlight the moral themes in ThiruppAvai, to which youngsters responded. This was a new Anubhavam during this Marghazhi. The Kids ranged between 6th and 9th grades.

**Amritha Aravamudhan, Suffield CT**

**pAsuram 2:**

I chose the Second Pasuram in which Andal says **theekkuRaLai(ch) chenROdhOm**.  
The moral being not to speak ill about others.

**Krishna Aravamudhan, Suffield CT**

**pAsuram 11:**

I chose the Pasuram 11 in which Andal says **sitraadhE pEsaadhE**  
The moral being to not gossip and speak about good things.

**Lohini Padmeshika Suresh, Eldersburg, MD**

**pAsuram 15**

**Valleergal neengale naanthan aayiduga**

Here Sri Andal says that "let me take all the complaints on me"

Through these words we all should learn that one is not suppose to talk anything ill about anyone or anything.

Accept the life as it is. Do not complain. Be happy and blessed for that is given to you. Do not hesitate to take blame on you, even if it is not your mistake, because we are not losing anything by accepting and even if it would calm the other person , it is s good deed done by you.

**Lohitaksh Narayan Suresh, Eldersburg, MD**

**pAsuram 1**

**Narayanane namakke parai tharuvan**

Which talks about the complete surrender at the lotus feet of Sriman Narayanan. He is the supreme and only he is authorized to give us moksham and no other devathas can give us moksham. The moral here being do not fall for any prey other than to work only towards the goal to reach.

**Shri Akshayaa Lakshmikumar, Frisco, TX**

**Pasuram 18**

This pasuram, the 18th, also happens to be Ramanuja's favorite pasuram, and he gets moorchai thinking about the divine experiences described in the pasuram. In this pasuram, Andal is trying to wake Krishna and after a failed attempt, she realizes that she needs to request through his divine consort, Nappinai. She says **nandagopalan marumagale nappinai**, which translates to the daughter-in-law of Nandagopalan, (known as) Nappinai. Later in the pasuram, she says **...un maittunan pEr pAda; sentAmarai kaiyAl seerAr valai olippa; vandu thiravAy makizhndEIOr empAvAy**, which means "to sing the names of your beloved Krishna, come open the door with

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joy". From Andal calling ThAyAr to wake Krishna in this pasuram, we can learn that we always need her as mediation between us and the Lord.

**Shrinarayane Rengarajan, Frisco, TX**

**pAsuram 28**

**Kurai onrum illAda kOvinda, un tanno-DuravEl namakkingozikka oziyAdu**

"The connection between the Lord and the Jivatma is inseparable."

This pasuram explains the art of complete surrender, or Prapatti, to the Lord. To explain this, Sri Andal refers to the metaphor 'Maarjaala Nyaya'. Whenever a cat travels around with its kitten, it holds the kitten in its mouth with equal firmness and gentleness. The entire responsibility is given to the mother cat and not the kittens. This is the essence of true surrender. We must all be the kittens and surrender ourselves at His feet. By giving the Lord full responsibility, we can learn to detach ourselves from materialistic desires and Ahanmkara. In addition, this pasuram is directly equivalent to the Dvayam Mantram. While the Dvayam is usually obtained after Pancha Samskaram, this pasuram is available to everyone, and further exemplifies Sri Godai's compassion. Hence, this pasuram can be recited multiple times, and reap the benefits of the Dvayam.

Thank you, Mama, for providing us with the opportunity to learn the beauty of Thiruppavai through its meanings!

**Shrinidhi Rengarajan, Frisco, TX**

**pAsuram 29**

**Un poRRamarai adiyE pORRum poruL kELai..**

In this phrase of the pasuram, ThAyAr says that our only wish should be to do Bhagavad and BhAgavada kainkaryam, and that we should not ask for any materialistic things. Later on in the pasuram, she says "eRRaikkuM EzEz piravikkum, un tanno-doRRoME AvOm, unakkE nAm At ceyvOm." Sri EmperumAnAr, following ThAyAr's words, did Prapatti to PerumAL. Being the embodiment of compassion, He did not only do Prapatti for himself, but for all of humankind. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity, Maama. Adiyongal learned a lot from this activity.

**Vaikuntha Sai, Palm Beach Gardens, FL**

Dear swamin, the moral value that I have picked is **keeping your word** in stanza 16