

# TIED HANDS

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## Intent of th Story

- ✓ *God wants us to be free,*
- ✓ *Freedom is required to do good and evil.*
- ✓ *Freedom is both an opportunity and a risk*
- ✓ *We have to educate others to be responsibly free,*

## THE STORY

Once upon a time, there lived a man who was just as normal as you and I. One day, some unknown people broke into his house, tied his hands and took him away. They told him:

“Try to understand us, we are your friends, we have tied your hands to help you to be good! With your hands tied, you will never be able to do anything wrong. Thus, you will never be blamed for any wrong or sin you might do.”

Then, they posted guards in front of his room to make sure that that his hands would remain forever tied. At the start, he felt terribly handicapped. He tried hard, desperately hard, to break the ties, but in vain. He could not.

Finally, when he realized that all his efforts were futile, he resigned himself to live on with his hand tied. After many days, he got so used to live and move with his hands tied, that he felt it to be the normal thing.

Everyday, his guards kept informing him of all the bad things - robberies, fights, murders - people with free and untied hands were doing in the outside world.

They brainwashed him to such an extent that he at last, felt grateful to his captors for having tied his hands. After all, they saved him from the crimes and evil deeds people did in the outside. He even thanked God for his “tied-hands”. He thought that to have one’s hands tied, was a blessing.

Many days later, his friends came to know of the place of his captivity. They attacked the guards, overpowered them, and broke the bonds that kept his hands tied. Then, exultantly they shouted: “You are free now! Rejoice! Use your hands again! Enjoy life!”

But alas! It was too late! His hands were unusable. By now they were shrunken and lifeless. They had withered away

## TEACHING

## **God wants us to be free:**

God made us to his own image and likeness; so, God gave us a **power to think** - intellect, - **a power to love** – a heart, and a **power to take decisions** - free will.

Unfortunately, we, being limited and imperfect can abuse our freedom and do wrong. We can sin. We can do mistakes. God cannot!

## **Dangers and opportunities of freedom:**

Freedom is both an opportunity and a danger; we can use it or misuse it

Freedom is both a boon and a curse; it save or damn us.

It we use it, heroism, virtue and holiness are possible -

If we misuse it wickedness, sinn crimes and injustices, are possible –

By giving us freedom, God took great risks, yet He wanted us to be free .

## **Privileges and Responsibilities of**

### **Freedom**

God wants us to be his children – sons and daughters - not robot-like c instinct driven animals.

Freedom makes us answerable nd responsible persons..

Being His images, God gave us, to some extend, the power to act freely like Himself

We have a duty to educate those under our care - to use their freedom responsibly, and not to take it away from them.

## **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

- Is freedom can be both, a a blessing and a curse
- Consciously, or unconsciously we are afraid of our freedom
- Likewise, consciously, or unconsciously we are afraid of giving others their freedom.
- Unawares, we curtail and control others' freedom by indoctrination and brainwashing, by force and intimidation, by blackmailing and inducing guilt feelings in others, and other similar means of manipulation

