# God Is in Each of Us

*A story* *about the source of Mystery, Wonder and Awe, from the Upanishads\**

Once there was a boy named **Svetaketu** (Svayta-kaytu) who went away to school to learn all about God. When he came back home his father could see that although he had learned many things there were still some things, some very important things, that he did not yet understand. When his father told him that there was more for him to learn, Svetaketu said, “Please, Father teach me,” and his father said, “So be it, my son.” Svetaketu’s father said” Go bring me a fig from that large tree over there.” Svetaketu ran to pluck a fig and brought it to his father saying, “Here it is, sir.”

Then his father said, “Cut it in two.” and Svetaketu cut the fig in two saying, “I have done as you asked.” Then his father said, “What do you see in the fig?” and Svetaketu answered, “All these little tiny seeds.” Then Svetaketu’s father said, “Cut one of the tiny seeds in two,” and Svetaketu did. Svetaketu’s father then asked, “What do you see now?” and Svetaketu answered, “Nothing at all.”

Then Svetaketu’s father said, “But, my son, I want you to know that even thought you can’t see it, there is an unseen power in that seed which can grow such a seed into a great tree like the one over there. And, Svetaketu, the unseen power that is in the seed is the same power that is in the whole world. That power is the mystery that some call God. That power is Spirit and God’s spirit-power is in you, too, Svetaketu.” When Svetaketu heard his father’s words he felt both very small and very big to think that such a wonderful power could be in him and he asked his father to teach him more about the spirit-power of God that was in him. And so his father did and Svetaketu learned that even though this spirit-power is unseen by our ordinary eyes, we can see it with our inner eyes. It is there in such mysteries as growing and loving.

And that spirit-power is in each one of us. It is in everyone here at church. It is in everyone in Sacramento. It is in everyone in California. It is in everyone in our country. It is in each and everyone in the whole world.

The Upanishads are a collection of Vedic texts which contain the earliest emergence of some of the central religious concepts of Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism. The Upanishads are considered by Hindus to contain revealed truths concerning the nature of ultimate reality and describing the character and form of human salvation. (Wikipedia)

**Wondering Questions for your Child**

* I wonder if you have ever seen or heard any of this before?
* I wonder which part of this story is the most important?
* I wonder which part you like the best?
* I wonder where you might be in this story?
* I wonder if there is a part of the story that we could leave out and still have a story?
* I wonder how tiny a seed can be?
* I wonder how such a big tree can come from such a small seed?
* I wonder what figs taste like?
* I wonder what the mystery that some call god is like?
* I wonder what that mystery feels like?
* I wonder where the Spirit of Love and Mystery might be in this story?
* I wonder if you have ever come close to the mystery that some people call God?
* I wonder if this lesson reminds you of any of our Unitarian Universalist Promises?



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