**The Elephant and Rope**

As a man was passing the elephants, he suddenly stopped, confused by the fact that these huge creatures were being held by only a small rope tied to their front leg. No chains, no cages. It was obvious that the elephants could, at anytime, break away from their bonds but for some reason, they did not.  
  
He saw a trainer nearby and asked why these animals just stood there and made no attempt to get away.

“Well,” trainer said, “when they are very young and much smaller we use the same size rope to tie them and, at that age, it’s enough to hold them. As they grow up, they are conditioned to believe they cannot break away. They believe the rope can still hold them, so they never try to break free.”  
  
The man was amazed. These animals could at any time break free from their bonds but because they believed they couldn’t, they were stuck right where they were.  
  
Like the elephants, how many of us go through life hanging onto a belief that we cannot do something, simply because we failed at it once before? I think every one of us can relate to this story and the feeling of having failed at something or another over the years. Over time, we begin to think that we are not capable of doing a particular thing and we accept this as the truth and limit ourselves to a very confined world.

We think to ourselves ‘ah I tried that before and it didn’t work out, what is the point in trying it again and wasting my time, I don’t want to look like a fool!’ And this is how we start to shrink and contract and settle for a life that is ‘safe’ and ‘less than exciting’. We don’t want to move out of our comfort zone.

Many of us think that they cannot get rich, they cannot earn a luxurious living for their family. They just don’t believe it that they can do anything if they want but the problem is they don’t even try. Think over it if that elephant would had just believed it even for a second that he can break that rope and if he tried, he would had definitely break it, wouldn’t he?

Have faith in yourself, believe in yourself that you can do all those things which others have been telling you that you cannot do. Take a stand; prove them wrong. You may fail, but it’s absolutely alright.

Failure is part of learning; we should never give up the struggle in life. Always remember,

**“Success comes from experience, experience comes from bad experiences and bad experiences come from failures.”**