AN 4.60 — Lay Practice

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
Source: https://suttacentral.net/an4.60/en/sujato
Source revision: 3bc8665e0e28e70518eba94304a2fafcab80f933
License: CC0-1.0 — https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/

Text

Numbered Discourses 4.60

6. Overflowing Merit

Lay Practice

Then the householder Anāthapiṇḍika went up to the Buddha, bowed, and sat down to one side. The Buddha said to him:

“Householder, when a noble disciple does four things they are practicing appropriately for a layperson, which brings fame and leads to heaven. What four? It’s when a noble disciple serves the mendicant Saṅgha with robes, almsfood, lodgings, and medicines and supplies for the sick. When a noble disciple does these four things they are practicing appropriately for a layperson, which brings fame and leads to heaven.

Those who are astute practice the way

that’s appropriate for laypeople.

They provide those who are ethical

and rightly comported with robes,

almsfood, lodgings,

and supplies for the sick.

Their merit always grows

by day and by night.

They pass on to a place in heaven,

having done excellent deeds.”