

Feathers

Story

A man once asked a wise teacher, "How can I see what effects my efforts are having in the world?"

The teacher replied, "Go buy a dead chicken in the market place, and as fast as you can, pluck the feathers and bring the bird back to me." The man thought it was a strange request, but he did as the teacher asked.

As he ran back to the teacher's house, the man watched all the chicken feathers fly, scattered by the wind. When he came back to the teacher, the teacher told the man to go collect all of those scattered feathers. "But I can't," said the man. "The feathers will be everywhere; I don't even know where to start looking."

"Exactly," said the teacher. "You never know where all of your efforts will go."