

## Abstract

The purpose of this research was to study the effect of group counseling based on last instruction of the Buddha and the Four Noble Truths to increasing the academic achievement among students with GPAX below 2.00: A case study of students in Mattayom Suksa 3 Santirat Wittayalai School. The study was a quasi-experimental research, using pretest-posttest control group design.

The participants were students in Mattayom Suksa 3, Santirat Wittayalai School who had GPAX below 2.00. They were divided into two groups, ten in the treatment group and ten in the control group. All participants were volunteers. The treatment group participated in four-week group counseling. There were eight sessions 90 minutes in each. The researcher acting as the group leader. The control group did not participate in the program.

Instruments used in this study were counseling programs based on the last instruction of the Buddha, the Four Noble Truths and learned behavior record. The record was done by the participants. Statistical analyses used in this study were mean standard deviation and t-test. Procedures in this study were: pre-test, post-test and four week follow up. The results of this study were as follow:

The students in the treatment group had statistically significance higher mean scores ( $t = 12.39$ ,  $p < .01$ ) on the academic achievement and on the learning behavior after the posttest. The control group did not have statistically significance higher mean scores during pretest, posttest and at four-week follow up.

In conclusion, students who participated in this program had improvement of learning behavior and the increase of academic achievement.