

॥ Shri Hari ॥

# Means to get Connected with God



Tvameva Maata Cha Pita Tvameva  
Tvameva Bandhusa Sakhaa Tvameva  
Tvameva Vidyaa Dravinam Tvameva  
Tvameva Sarvam Mama Deva Deva

Swami Ramsukhdas

## Means to get Connected with God

Eating, drinking, sleeping, talking, laying around lazily - the extent to which the mind tends to settle in these activities, to that extent it does not remain engaged in study of scriptures, worship and adoration of God! Shri Kabir said -

**Kabira manuvaan ek hai,  
bhaave jahaan lagaaye |  
Bhaave hair ki bhagati kar,  
bhaave vishaya kamaay ||**



There are only two points. In the middle is the soul (jeev), on one side is the world, and the other side is God. In the world you get pleasures from association and there remains an attraction for the world, a fondness for it. However, in worship and adoration of the Lord, in reading scriptures, repeating the Lord's Divine Name etc. there is no liking. Mind can only remain connected with one thing. Therefore lift your mind away from the world. Do not seek happiness in eating, drinking, sleeping etc. If you continue to seek pleasures in these, then the mind will not get connected with God; because the mind's nourishment will come from the world alone!

Favorable situations appear pleasing and unfavorable situations are dreaded, then we are the patrons of the world,

aren't we? Examine yourself carefully and see whether you are a patron of God or patron of this World? On one had is God and on the other is this world. If the favorable situations of this world, favorable object, favorable states are pleasing and if unfavorable situations are displeasing, then you are not a devotee of the Lord.

Those people who sit in their shops to earn money, they come across many favorable and unfavorable individuals, but they neither become pleased nor become displeased. They continue to be immersed in trading, thinking what have we got to do with being pleased or displeased, we are here to earn money! In this manner just as a householder is engaged in earning money, similarly a spiritual aspirant must minimally be engaged in God. We get trapped in favorable and unfavorable situations and this is a great obstacle. Majority of a householder's time goes away in the mode of ignorance. For a number of years such thoughts have come in my mind and some are there even today – that a sadhu's time mostly goes away in laziness, ignorance, eating, drinking, and sleeping. What to do tell me! You all can make yourself good, then do so, there is no other solution to this. You yourself have become a sadhu, now who can say anything to you? I have read in books that he doesn't have the sense in himself, and does not want to believe another, then who can make him understand?

If you get something, then it is Paramatma (God, Supreme Being) alone that you get, there is nothing else that you can get. Besides God, never has anyone got anything else, absolutely nothing else will be attained, and nothing else can be attained. All that happens is a misconception that I have got so much money, I have acquired so much fame, I have a great body that is free of disease, I have attained victory, I have acquired rest

and relaxation - this is nothing but deceit! If you die today, then there is nothing that you have attained. You all pay attention. The only thing that can be attained is God, besides God there is nothing else that you can attain. If your tendencies remain towards wealth, possessions, fame, happiness, etc. then it will be dishonesty, it will be deceit, it will be cleverness, it will be cheating, and the outcome of this later on will be sorrow, hell, birth in the 8.4 million wombs. If one sees what is to be attained then besides God (Paramatma, Supreme Consciousness) there is nothing else to be attained at all.

*Questioner: If I engage in Lord's divine stories, then will the Lord's grace fall upon me?*

Swamiji: If the mind is able to engage in the Lord's and devotees stories then it is a very great thing. Read, listen to these by becoming fully immersed, then God's grace will flow on its own. If the mind engages in God and His devotee's life stories, if it becomes immersed in these, then God cannot stay without showering His grace; the grace will come upon you forcefully. If the mind engages in God and devotee's life stories then it will be very good.

Hetu rahit jag jug upkaari ।  
Tumh tumhaar sewak asuraari ॥  
Swaarth meet sakal jag maahim ।  
Sapanehun Prabhu parmaarth naahin ॥  
(Manas 7/43/3)

God and His devotees are the only two that will do what is for your eternal good, what is beneficial for you. It is not that any third (other) person, thing, situation, capabilities will do you any good. Nothing will happen with other's aid at all. Nothing

will happen by having money, nor by having fame, nor by having greatness, nor by having properties, nor by the family. All that accumulated wealth will come to an end and you will have to die !

*Questioner - Swamiji! We do not know saints well, then by their grace will everything simply happen?*

Swamiji: Do not worry about knowing or not knowing them. Whether you know them or don't know them, do as they say. What to speak of whether it will happen sometime in the future? RIGHT NOW !! it should happen, right now your mind should become connected with God. It will happen sometime, what is the surety of that? See Brother, I consider this deceit, that meeting this saint, this great soul, this Guru, by his grace everything will happen - believing so, but not doing anything at all by your own effort is nothing but deceit. If you meet a saint then there should be transformation in you, isn't it? Just as in sleep you feel thirsty and you drink some water, but your thirst is not quenched by it, similarly even after meeting a saint, having good spiritual associations, if we are not satisfied, our state is the same as before, then what have you gained? **Our life should change, we should become immersed in God.**

If the mind gets immersed in the Lord, His life stories, His qualities, His divine play, then it is very beneficial. However, nowadays when one is reading the scriptures, Divine Name recitation etc., it is as if you are completing a task, fulfilling your duty, getting something out of the way. "Daily we have to do this much Divine Name recitation (japa) etc., if we don't do so then we will not be satisfied, therefore let us read the daily allotted portion of the scriptures, repeat the Divine Name, listen to that many discourses, then one thing is out of the way, we are free thereafter. They have said so, and we have accepted,

therefore we have to do these things, we have to recite the name of God. Somehow or the other we have to complete. Now that the reading of the scriptures is completed, let us wrap the book up and leave it aside” etc. etc.

When a child studies, but as soon as his time is up, he gets up and runs saying finally I am done, I am free, the task is over! In this manner when you read the scriptures, recite the Name of the Lord etc., and considering it to be some sort of chore, hardship, a burden then surely there will not be any gain! Time is available, but when the mind is not engaging in the Lord's divine life stories – this is a very grave day for men. Instead of wasting time, it is better that one engage in some work, some business.

It is a principle that besides God one can attain nothing, only deceit. Whether you have millions or billions of dollars, whether you have thousands of disciples paying obeisance to you, respecting you, but when you die you will get nothing whatsoever! Because these are not the things that you can get. Getting great good, good clothes, good place to sleep, getting rest and relaxation, then it is all deceit, you have gained nothing at all. Therefore one must become cautious! One must become alert!

I am saying that at all times do Divine Name recitation, and every two to four minutes interval, bow down to God from within and say – “O' Lord! Let me not forget You”, “O, Lord! May my mind get connected and engaged at Your Lotus Feet”; “May you appear sweet to me, may You appear loving to me.” Let there be only one request that let the consciousness gravitate towards God and He appears sweet, His name appears sweet, His qualities appear sweet, His divine plays appear sweet, His life history appears sweet and loving.

*Questioner - Can we consider Ramayanji as our Guru within our mind? By considering an individual as a Guru, the mind goes towards his qualities and his flaws.*

Swamiji – Yes! Definitely you can do so, you will be greatly benefited. By considering Ramayanji as your Guru, doing “parikrama” (circling around Him), prostrating and paying obeisance, with great reverence reading His words, and the points that you find appealing, to accept them as Guru's teachings, his commands. You will attain salvation! Guru is his “Words”, guru is not the “body”. It is my advice too that do not make an individual a Guru, you will be trapped in that. You will not be able to go other places, you will be deprived of other good teachings. Therefore either Ramayana, or if you wish Gitaji, or whether some great saints and good souls that were born previously, or if you like someone in recent times, and do not establish a guru-disciple relationship with them, but rather whatever good points you have heard from them, very quickly abide in those points. Whatever flaws you may have, remove them, become distant from them. Take advice from these great souls regarding what to do? How to do? When someone asks me about spiritual practices then I am very pleased, I am very happy. Let me be a Guru and the other my disciple, such things I do not like, but if someone asks about spiritual practice then I feel very good about that and as the points come, I will share with them as is. I will not pretend or hide anything. People say that become my disciple then I will share with you, but I say that do not become a disciple, then I will share with you.

*Questioner: There is intense longing for God Realization, simply by this can I have a vision of the Lord?*

Swamiji: It can happen. **When love will overflow, then beholding God before the eyes can happen. It should not cool**

off, just like the bubbles that arise in Soda water, which later fizzle down ! Rather it should increase. It should be more than yesterday, tomorrow should be more than today, day after tomorrow it should be more than tomorrow, similarly everyday, every moment love for God should grow. Loving God itself is “Bhajan” (adoration and remembrance of God) - ‘Pannagaari sunu prem sam bhajanu na doosar aan.’ There is no “Bhajan” equivalent to love. The attraction that one has for God, that itself is “Bhajan.” For this, time and again pray to God. Sit in solitude and read the divine stories of God's devotees.

Sit in solitude, closing the door to the room. Do not see anyone, and let no one see you. Then read the stories of God's devotees. Read “stottras” and “Vinaypatrika.” While reading when the heart overflows with love, and eyes are drenched in tears, at that time close the book and begin to recite the Divine Name of the Lord, chant His holy name, pray to Him, saying “O' Lord! Let me Never forget You. Keep on repeating so. Saying so, when the eyes dry up, and such sentiments do not remain anymore, then once again wherever you left off in the book (place which caused you to have such sentiments) start reading a little bit prior to that part in the book. And while reading, if again the sentiments arise and you feel love overflowing, then once again leave the book aside. Let the sentiments never be one of completing the book. The aim should be to become connected with God, to have the mind remain engaged in that. While reading as the mind becomes engaged, there leave the book and pray, talk to God about yourself, cry for God. Do this spiritual discipline for one to two hours a day and see for yourself. If at that time some other work comes up, then leave it aside, do not do it at that time. Even if millions of tasks are not getting done, let it be so, but do not leave the remembrance of the Lord.



“Kotim tyaktvaa Harim smaret” Greater than the life story of God, is the life story of God's devotees. Goswamiji Maharaj has written -

More mana Prabhu as biswaasaa ।

Raam te adhik Ram kar dasa ॥

(Manas 7/120/8)

He does not simply write about this, he actually puts it to use. Goswamiji Maharaj remains at all times with Lord Rama in his mind, therefore he writes “Ihaan” - “Ihaan praapt jaage raghuraayi” (6/17/1) and he does not remain with Ravan therefore he writes - “Uhaan sakopi dasaann” (6/32 Kha) etc. However, wherever there is God and His devotee – both these points are there, there Goswamiji leaves God and remains with the devotees; Just as while describing Bharatji he says “Ihaan” for Bharatji - “Ihaan Bharatu sab sahit sahaaye” (2/233/2) and for Lord Ramji he says “Uhaan: - “Uhaan Ramu rajni avaseshaa” (2/223/2)

Bharat charit kari nemu tulasi jo saadar sunahin ।

Seey Ram pad pemu avasi hoyi bhav ras birati ॥

(2/326)

When Goswamiji began to write Ramayana, then first he wrote the life story of Bharatji (Ayodhyaakand). Thereafter he wrote Balakand. Therefore in the beginning of both Ayodhyakand and Balakand prayer and respect to Guru takes place, not in the other chapters. Because first he did the prayer to Guru in Ayodhyakand, and then he initiated the work of writing the Ramayana, where he once again offered Prayers to the Guru, then he continued to write on. In this manner first Goswamiji wrote the life stories of devotees, then he wrote about the life stories of God.

नारायण ! नारायण ! नारायण !

(From book in hindi "Swadheen kaise Bane" by Swami Ramsukhdasji)

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