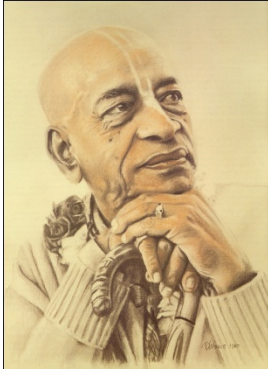


International Society for Kåñëa Consciousness
Founder-Acarya His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



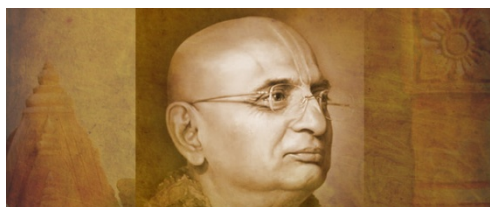
Ocean of Nectar

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1. Krishna I love you

Hare Krishna. Hare Krishna so, do you all like Hare Krishna movement?

All: Yes!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: What's so special about the Hare Krishna movement? Besides becoming a vegetarian?

Young Devotee 1: You get to serve the Deities.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Okay very good point. You get to serve the deities, and what else?

Young Devotee 2: Chanting?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Chanting what?

Young Devotee 2: The holy name of Krishna.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Very good. What's the holy name like?

Young Devotee 2: The Hare Krishna Maha Mantra.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: What's the Hare Krishna maha mantra like?

Young Devotee 2: Hare Krishna Hare Krishna (all devotees join) Krishna Krishna Hare Hare Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: So you like to chant Hare Krishna maha mantra?

Young Devotee 2: Yeah.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Why do you like to chant it?

Young Devotee 2: Because it's fun!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Why?

Young Devotee 2: It's fun!

Young Devotee 3: Ecstatic love for Krishna!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Wonderful! HARIBOL!!!

♥ Ecstatic love for Krishna!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Ecstatic love for Krishna! Yes. That's what the Hare Krishna Maha Mantra is, Hare Krishna movement is for. That's what the Hare Krishna movement stands for. It teaches us how to love, Krishna. Everybody wants to love somebody, and everybody wants to be loved, by everybody. Now, what do we actually want? What does one want out of this loving exchange? Maybe we can get into, consider that. Pradyumna prabhu, why do people want to have this loving exchange?

Pradyumna das: They want to be happy?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Very good. Love, from love we want to be happy. Actually, now let us consider what is happiness? Can you tell me what is happiness? Actually bliss, joy is not really happiness. Bliss, joy, bliss or joy is more than happiness, something that is beyond happiness, something that is more than happiness. Happiness has been described as 'cessation of pain'. When the painful, when the conditioned existence, the painful condition is reduced,

then we call that happiness. In the material nature, what is our condition like? What is our existence like?

Devotee 2: Miserable!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Miserable! Very good! In this material nature you realize that? Thank you, this is very smart!

♥ In this material nature, everyone is miserable.

But not that everybody recognizes, not that everyone understands that he is miserable. He is miserable, but he doesn't realise that. Like for example a person in a very painful condition, in a hospital suffering. You go and ask him "how are you?" what does he say? "Good, I'm fine!" Although there is suffering, but they think that they are fine. Actually they know they are not fine, but they think that tomorrow they will become fine. This hope and expectation that the ultimate objective will be achieved. That is what everyone is trying for. So, our existence in this material nature is miserable, is very painful, is very difficult. Therefore, this material nature has been compared to a prison house. *dukhalayam asasvatam* (BG 8.15). In Bhagavad Gita, Krishna described this material nature as a place of misery dukhalayam, and if anybody who's enjoying, then that enjoyment is *açāçvatam*, is temporary. Another way to look at it is that we are existing in this material nature with this material body. Now what is the condition of this material body? Material body has been described as an instrument to receive pain. It's an instrument to receive pain. How do we understand that? Take any part of your body. Take any part of your body. Just consider any part of your body. I'm asking you to think of any part of your body. Which part you'll think?

Young devotee 2: Head.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Head. Very good. Now you consider in how many ways you can give pain to your head.

Young devotee 2: Talking too much?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: That's a very subtle way of giving pain. What is someone takes a stone and smashes your head?

Young devotee 2: It'll get damaged.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Ok. In this we can think of causing pain to our body, this part of the body. Can you think of some other part of the body?

Young devotee 1: Right hand?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Which part of the hand?

Young devotee 1: Finger that you chant.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: The finger that you chant. Now you consider how many different ways you can give pain to this finger. You can take a knife and you can cut it. How would you feel?

Young devotee 1: Start crying!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: You can take some fire and burn it. You can take a hammer and smash it. Now in this way you can consider in so many different ways you can inflict pain upon every single part of your body? Isn't it? Now what does it signify? That this body is actually meant for receiving pain. Because, now when you consider in how many different ways we can give pleasure to the body...Say the finger, of your

right hand. You can inflict pain upon this finger in so many ways, but in how many ways you can give pleasure to your finger? Can you think of any way?

Young devotee 1: By chanting?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: By chanting, what does the finger feel?

Young devotee 1: err

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Anyway, the point is we can't really give any pleasure to any part of your body, where as you can inflict pain upon your body in so many ways. What does this signify? That this body is meant for receiving pain. So this body is made for receiving pain in a place which is meant for getting pain. Now when that painful condition is reduced to some extent, then we call it, then we call it pleasure. But as you say, bliss, joy, bliss and happiness is not really the same. Joy and happiness is not the same. Actually nobody knows what joy really is, or bliss actually is. Nobody knows in this material nature. This bliss or joy, actually the Sanskrit word for bliss and joy is anandam. And this ananda is experienced by the exchange of love with Krishna. Now let us consider what is love. Anybody? Can anybody define love? What is the definition of love? Yes?

Devotee 3: To serve.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Love is to serve. Okay. Who?

Devotee 3: The person you are having the loving relationship with. Whether is a mother serving her child?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Yeah.

Devotee 3: Father serving

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Love, Serve. Serve is not love. Service is an expression of love. But not love itself. Will anyone venture to define love? Come, it's such a common word!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Actually, in English language, love is considered the most used word, most popular word. But when it comes to defining it, why is it so difficult? Love actually; this is the thing, because nobody knows what love is.

♥ What goes on in the name of love is lust.

Lust is an arrangement to exploit others for ones sense gratification. Therefore love and lust is diametrically opposed. Love and lust is not the same thing. Now let us look for the definition in Caitanya Caritamṛta. There are two expressions. Love has been described as prema. The Sanskrit word for love is prema, and the Sanskrit word for lust is kama. So Caitanya Caritamṛta is describing that *atmendriya-préti-vaicha-tare bali 'kama', kamendriya-prite-iccha dhare 'prema' nāma* (CC Adi 4.165). The desire for our own sense gratification is called lust. But the desire to give pleasure to Krishna's senses is called prema. So what is prema? Prema means or love means what? To give pleasure to Krishna's senses, and what is lust? Lust is the arrangement for our own sense gratification. So is it the same thing? No. It's completely opposed, opposite. Therefore it says *ataeva kama-preme bahuta antara, kama-andha-tamau, prema-nirmala bhaskara* (CC Adi 4.171). Therefore, there is a great difference between

love and lust. Lust is the deepest region of darkness, whereas love is brilliant as the sun. Now again we go deeper into that expression. What is love? Love is actually an energy. An energy that is manifest in performing some act. Through energy we get something done. What does this energy love do? This energy love unites the soul with the Supreme Personality of Godhead. This energy is there, through this energy, the living entity is connected to Krishna, or meant to become connection to Krishna. Now again we go back.

♥ What is the relationship between Krishna and the living entities?

What is the relationship between Krishna and the living entities? What's the relationship? What is a living entity in relationship with Krishna? A living entity is a part and parcel of Krishna. Now a part is meant to be connected to a whole. If the part isolated, if the part is separated from the whole, does that part have any significance? Does the part bear any significance? Like if my finger is cut off from my body, and lying on the floor, will that finger have any value? The value of the finger is in its connection with the body. The moment the finger is separated from the body it loses its value. So similarly, the living entity is parts and parcel of Krishna. The utility, of the existence of the living entity is in its connection with Krishna. If a living entity is not connected to Krishna then living entity existence doesn't bare any meaning. It's meaningless. Why? Because it has become separated from Krishna, separated from the whole. And what is happening to us in this material nature? In this material nature everyone is standing on his own, isolated from Krishna, trying to find some meaning or purpose to his existence. But does it actually have any meaning of his existence? Everybody thinks he is very important, but does the rest of the world think that they are important? Most cases not. And Even if someone is, and even if someone becomes important, for how long does importance last? The moment he leaves this body, leaves this planet, the moment he dies, all his utility is lost. So the utility of one's existence lies in his connection to Krishna. We all are spirit souls. Do you all accept that? Who are you? How many of you think that you are spirit souls? Please raise your hands. How many of you think that you are this body? Please raise your hands. Very bold declaration! So we are in reality, at least we have found out from Prabhupada's books, that we are spirit souls in our actual identity. And what is the body? The body is only the external covering of the soul. Anyway, that has been elaborately explained in Bhagavad Gita, I don't want to get into that. But the general understanding I can see most of you accept that you are a spirit soul, and that spirit soul is a part and parcel of Krishna. How many of you accept that you are a spirit soul, and the spirit soul is a part and parcel of Krishna? Ok. Now if the spirit soul is a part and parcel of Krishna, then shouldn't the spirit soul become connected to Krishna? How many of you think that the spirit soul must be connected to Krishna? Now what is the means to be connected to Krishna? How can a soul become

connected with Krishna? Here comes the word love. Where is love situated? Did you ever consider? I'm sure you know that?!

♥ Where is love situated?

Where is love situated?

Devotee 4: Heart.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: In the heart. Very good. And Why in the heart? Heart is the seat of the soul, and love is with the soul. Therefore love is generated from the heart, the region of the heart. Don't we say "I love you with all my heart?"

Devotee 5: And soul!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Yes, and soul! How many of you, how many ever say, did you ever hear anyone saying "I love you with all my head!"?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: We never come out with such expressions. We love with our hearts. Why? Love is with the soul, and soul is with, situated in the region of the heart. Now this love as I mentioned earlier, is the energy **that** unites us with Krishna. So this energy is meant for uniting us with Krishna. But when you are oblivious of Krishna, when you are forgetful of Krishna, then what happens? We have our love in our hearts, but we forgot Krishna. Then what happens? Did you ever consider? You all know. Because we forgot Krishna, we try to offer our love to somebody else. And through that offering of love, we want to experience joy; this is how love and joy are interrelated. Through love we want to experience joy but that joy will only be experienced when love is offered to Krishna. But instead of offering the love to Krishna, when we offer our love to somebody else, no matter whoever it may be, through that love we want to experience joy and bliss, but do we get that? No. The point is, only when the love is offered to Krishna, the heart will experience the joy that it is hankering for. Now do you want to be joyful? How many of you want to be joyful? (All raise hands) Okay, very good. So now if you want to be joyful, what are you going to do? Aren't you going to function, or aren't you going to act in a way that will give you the joy? And the way to do that is offer the love of your heart to Krishna. (More devotees enter the Temple room late). Today I thought I was late!

♥ ISKCON is teaching everyone how to love Krishna

So and Krishna consciousness movement, ISKCON is teaching everyone how to love Krishna. So ISKCON is actually establishing the real meaning of our existence, and showing us the way to fulfill our existence. It may sound like a very big claim, but it is true. If you want to be not only happy, if you want to become even more than happy, if you want to become joyful, then please come to ISKCON, and act according to the instructions that Srila Prabhupada has given in his books. ISKCON is the institution that has been designed by Srila Prabhupada to distribute the love of Godhead, Love for Krishna, to teach us how to love Krishna. And is Prabhupada concocting some ideas or developing some new way or..? No. Srila Prabhupada and actually presenting the process that the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Krishna has given. Prabhupada did not

create anything new. Krishna has given us all these informations. One of the main books is Bhagavad Gita which Krishna Himself spoke. Krishna gave this knowledge in various ways. Basically, Krishna at the time of creation, Krishna gave this knowledge in the form of the Vedas to Lord Brahma. But then He personally came, about 5,000 years ago and gave the essence of the Vedas in the form of Bhagavad Gita. Bhagavad Gita is actually the summary study of the Vedas. What are the essential teachings of the Vedas have been presented in Bhagavad Gita in a very simple way. Bhagavad Gita begins with what is the name of the first chapter of Bhagavad Gita?

Devotee 6: Observing the armies.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Yes, but the Sanskrit name for the chapter?

Devotee 6: Arjuna vishāda yoga.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: What is the meaning of the word vishāda? Vishāda is lamentation. Why does one lament? Does one lament when he is happy? One laments when he is in distress, when one is miserable, when one is suffering. So Arjuna was suffering, so that is the beginning of Bhagavad Gita. Actually Bhagavad Gita Krishna gave through Arjuna, to us. For our sake Krishna gave Bhagavad Gita through Arjuna. Arjuna is the object; Arjuna is the nimita, means. Like the Gita mahatmaya describes that the Upanishads are like a cow. All the Vedic wisdom is like a cow. Krishna is the cowherd boy. Arjuna is the calf. So the cow gives milk for the sake of the calf, but what does the milkman do? The milk man milks the cow; the cowherd boy Krishna milks the cow making Arjuna the means, the medium. But who drinks the milk that the milkman collects? Intelligent class of people. . So Krishna milked the Upanishads, or the Vedic wisdom, and the milk that He got is Bhagavad Gita, and who drinks this milk of Bhagavad Gita? The intelligent class of people. The intelligent people drink. Leicester has so many people but how many have come here? Only a few of you. So that means that you all are intelligent and they are only Krishna knows what they are. So it takes an intelligent person to appreciate this milk and drink it. So this Bhagavad Gita has been given by Krishna which is the essence of Vedas, for the sake of intelligent people who want to make their life successful. So now what is Krishna teaching in Bahagavd Gita? Let us go chapter by chapter. As I said the first chapter is Arjuna's lamentation. Now we all are suffering, and when we approach Bhagavad Gita then what do we find out? How to get out of suffering condition, and become joyful. That is the ultimate purpose of Bahagavd Gita. And at the beginning of Bhagavad Gita what Krishna is reminding Arjuna? Arjuna's lamentation was due to what? Arjuna's lamentation was due to his bodily concept of life. Arjuna was thinking that his actual identity was his body. But Krishna pointed out that he's not really his body, he's a spirit soul. So our lamentation is due to our bodily concept of life. Did you ever consider what is the cause of our lamentation?

♥ What is the cause of our suffering?

The cause of your suffering is the bodily concept of life. Identifying, as long as we identify ourselves with our body, we remain in a suffering condition. So Krishna is pointing out that your body is not your actual identity your real identity is spiritual, and then Krishna identified the quality of the soul. What is the soul like? What's the difference between body and soul? The first consideration was that the soul is the proprietor of the body. The body is there we do not deny the body, but the soul is owner of the body, the proprietor of the body, and there is a difference between the body and the owner of the body. The body is alive only as long as the owner of the body is in the body. Only as long as the soul is in the body, the body is alive. When the soul leaves the body, the body becomes dead. The body dies, when the soul leaves, but the does the soul ever die? The soul never dies. The soul is eternal, the soul is immortal, the soul cannot be cut by any weapon, the soul cannot be burnt by fire, the soul cannot be drowned in water, and the soul cannot be dried by air. In this way Krishna established the identity of all of us, our real identity. And there Krishna briefly why we came to this material nature, and what are we meant to do in this material nature. In very simple words, Krishna said that we must act according to the instructions of the Vedas. And Krishna explains, in this material nature the divine arrangement has been made like different departments are controlled by different demigods, and developing a harmonious relationship with the demigods, the living entities should live peacefully, happily in this material nature. And after describing that, Krishna mentioned that this knowledge He gave first to Vivasvan, the sun god and then Vivasvan gave this knowledge to his son Manu. Then Manu gave it to his son Iskvaku, and in this way through the disciplic succession of the saintly kings, this knowledge had been coming down, this knowledge had been flowing. So when Krishna told that He gave this knowledge first to the Sun god Vivasvan, then Arjuna questioned that "Krishna you were born just the other day, but Vivasvan was born so many millions of years ago. So how can I understand that you gave this knowledge to Vivasvan?" then Krishna replied "That Arjuna, many a time you have taken birth, I also have taken birth, but you have forgotten about your previous births, whereas I remember them." Then Krishna says "I actually don't need to take birth, and although I don't need to take birth, I am unborn, still, I appear in this material world, time and time again. Why I come here? I come here to establish dharma. I come here to establish law and order that has been given by the Supreme Personality, given, by me..." What is dharma? What is actual religion? Religion is the law given by the Supreme Personality of Godhead. "And when there is a decline, when people do not abide by the law, when people do not respect the law, when people do not act according to the instructions of the law book, then there comes a need to establish the law and order, and I come in order to do that. And how do I do that? I annihilate those who do not accept the law, and I protect those who abide by the law." So in this way, in the fourth chapter, Krishna

established His identify as the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and in this way chapter by chapter Krishna gives more and more informations how to develop our relationship with Him. In the sixth chapter He told about the ashtanga-yoga. The science of yoga, the science of becoming united with Krishna, untied with Him. And after that he mentioned this process of yoga is the most important of all spiritual activities. And then he pointed out after saying that, He mentioned that of all the yogis, one who loves Him he's most intimately connected with Him. Now can we relate to what we discussed before? What is love? How many of you remember what is love? You want to say something?

Devotee 7: Serving Krishna.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: What is the definition of love according to our discussion?

Devotee 8: Doing activities that will please Krishna.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Okay but before that, what did I say?

Devotee 9: Satisfying Krishna's senses?

Devotee 10: Love is an energy.

♥ Love is an energy in the heart

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Right. Love is an energy. Where is it?

Devotees: In the heart.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: In the heart, with the? Soul. What is the purpose of this love? What is love this energy meant for?

Young devotee 2: To reunite us with Krishna.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: To reunite us with Krishna. You all forgot already?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: I took half an hour to discuss that!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: So in the sixth chapter Krishna actually makes the point, that those who develop their loving relationship with Him, they are most intimately related to Him. Now can you relate now that love, that love is the means that we can become connected to Krishna? Not by any other means. Yoga is yoga ultimately means that love for Krishna. Yoga is not just some exercise or breathing for healthy living. Yoga is meant for developing our relationship with Krishna, and yoga is the offering of our love for Krishna who is the ultimate yogi, and that is called, So in the sixth chapter at the end Krishna describes the verse before last Krishna actually mentioned that *tapasvibhyo 'dhiko yogi, jnanibhyo 'pi mato 'dhikau, karmibhyas dhiko yogi, tasmad yogi bhavarjuna* (BG 6.46). That "tapasvi, those who perform austerity and penance in order to achieve the spiritual perfection, a yogi is greater than them. Yogi is greater than also a jnani, yogi is also superior to a karmi. Therefore Arjuna you become a yogi". Then Krishna says *yoginam api sarvesam, mad-gatenantar-atmana, sraddhavan bhajate yo mam, sa me yuktatamo matah* (BG 6.47). "That one who is, who has developed a loving relationship with Me, one who is serving Me with all his love, he is most intimately connected to Me". And then Krishna begins to describe Himself, who He is. From the seventh chapter to twelfth chapter Krishna described His Bhakti yoga. So first six chapters are describing karma yoga, the middle six chapters of the

eighteen chapters of Bhagavad Gita describe about Bhakti, the last six chapters from thirteen to eighteen describe about jnana yoga. So in this way Krishna revealed the transcendental knowledge to Arjuna. Now you see Arjuna and Krishna were actually related (cousins). Krishna was Arjuna's cousin, also about the same age, and they were very closely related, they were very intimately connected, they were very close friends. So Arjuna was treating all along Krishna as a friend, but then when Krishna started to speak Bhagavad Gita, and when Krishna told that He gave this knowledge to Vivasvan the Sun god, Arjuna raised the question "how can I understand that you gave this knowledge to Sun god?". *Aparah bhavato janma, parah janma vivasvatau*, "you were born the other day *aparam bhavato janma and parah janma vivasvatau*. *Vivasvata* was born so many years ago. *Katham etad vijanēyah, tvam adau proktavan iti* (BG 4.4). How can I understand that you gave this knowledge to Vivasvan?". Then Krishna started to answer that question. Krishna started to explain "*ajo 'pi sann avyayatma, bhutanam ēçvaro 'pi san, prakātiā svām adhinōhāya, sambhavāmy ātma-māyayā* (BG 4.6). I am unborn, aja. Although I am unborn, *ajo 'pi sann avyayātmā, bhūtānām ēçvaro 'pi san*, I am the controller of all the living entities still *prakātiā svām adhinōhāya*, taking advantage of my internal potency I appear. I manifest Myself". So this is how Krishna established the difference between jiva-atma and Himself. Arjuna is the jiva-atma, where as Krishna is the Supreme Personality. So in this way Krishna established His supreme identity, Krishna established His supreme identity His identity as the Supreme Personality of Godhead and in the fourth chapter he started to reveal that identity very systematically. Then He explained how one can be related to Him. How can a living entity who is just part and parcel can become related to Him. Once again let us go back and try to consider this point, because this is a very, very important point. How can one develop his loving we just said it!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: How can one develop his relationship with Krishna?

Devotee 10: Through love.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Through love. What is love?

Devotee 10: Surrendering unto Krishna.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Love is the energy that is there with every living entity. It is there with every living entity. Every soul, irrespective of its condition has love, and that love is meant to be offered to Krishna. When that love is offered to Krishna, then that relationship develops with Krishna. We become connected to Krishna, we become related to Krishna, and that love now let us consider what happens when we love? What happens when there is love? What happens? Is love a one way traffic?

♥ Love is a two way traffic

That means both the parties have to respond. If one party loves and the other party doesn't is the love complete? Love has to...now here, see Krishna loves us. Now let us consider this point also. Does Krishna

love us? How many of you agree that Krishna loves you?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Now if I ask you "how do you know?"

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: What will be your answer? The answer is going to be very simple. We just have to consider it a little thoughtfully, carefully. In order to be alive, what do we need? What's the most important thing that we need is? Food

Devotees: Air

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Okay, air. Very good

Devotee 11: Water.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Air, water okay let's start with air. We need air to be alive right? Now what air means? What you are breathing? So what you take when we breath?

Devotee 12: Oxygen.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: But when you breathe out what do we give out?

Devotees: Carbon dioxide.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Carbon dioxide. So we are taking oxygen and giving out carbon dioxide, and if this process continued then what would have happened? The whole atmosphere would have filled with carbon dioxide right? And there would be any oxygen left? No oxygen left. If there was no oxygen left could we breathe? No. Now has there been any shortage of oxygen?

Devotees: No.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Why not? We are taking oxygen and giving out carbon dioxide why there is no shortage of oxygen?

Devotees: Trees

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Because the trees and plants are taking oxygen, taking carbon dioxide and giving out?

Devotees: Oxygen

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Oxygen. Now who made this arrangement?

Devotees: Krishna

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Why?

Devotees: Because He loves us!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Silence! Why?

Devotees: Because He loves us!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Because He loves us!

♥ Because He loves us.

Now all the food that we are eating, who's supplying that?

Devotees: Krishna.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: How do you know?

Devotees: Because He loves us.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: How do you know that Krishna supplies the food? Somebody may say that I brought the food from the supermarket or grocery store.

Devotee 11: Because of rain and sun

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Very good rain and sun. Let's go deeper into it. First of all what do we eat?

Devotees: Grains, fruits...

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Grains and vegetables and fruits. Now how do they grow? How do the grains grow?

Devotee 11: Seeds.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: The seeds fall on the ground, they plant; the farmer plants the seeds on the field right? And then he waters the seeds and from the seeds comes out the plant. Then gradually, eventually from the plant, the grains come. Then the grains are harvested and we eat them. Those grains that came there, in those grains there are plants. In those plants there are grains. Or let us consider we are eating a fruit. Where did the fruit come from?

Devotees: From the tree.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: From the tree. How did the tree come from?

Devotees: Seed

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: From the seed, Right, and then we eat the fruit, and what's inside the fruit?

Devotees: Seeds

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Seeds: Those seeds fall on the ground and again some tree comes out. Some trees come out, and in those trees there are fruits, in those fruits there are seeds, in those seeds there are trees. In those trees there are fruits who made this arrangement?

Devotees: Krishna!

♥ Who but Krishna can make such an arrangement?

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Who but Krishna can make such an arrangement? Can anybody else such arrangements? Why did Krishna make this arrangement?

Devotees: Because He loves us!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Because He loves us! Now let us consider water. Where is water usually? Water is?

Devotees: In the sea.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: In the ocean but that water is not drinkable.

Young devotee 3: No. Salt

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Yeah full of Salt! That water we cannot drink but what actually happens? That water is far away. In the island of Britain the water may not be that far!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: In most places the ocean is far, far away. And that ocean water is evaporated by the rays of the sun. Then it goes up and forms the cloud. Then those clouds are carried by the wind, distributed to different parts. Then that cloud condenses and comes out in the form of water. Isn't an amazing distribution system?! And in this way in all the places in all the continents are getting supply of water. The original cause of water is this: evaporation of water from the ocean and going to different places in the form

of cloud and then coming down in the form of rain. Now who made this arrangement?

Devotees: Krishna

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Why did He make these arrangements?

Devotees: Because He loves us!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Now is only the food and drink and breathing the only means of our existence, our survival? Now let us consider how precarious our condition is. Did you ever consider how precarious your condition is on this planet? What is the shape of this planet? Round and where are you situated? Are you inside the planet, or on the surface of the plane?

Devotees: Surface.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: On the surface, and this planet is it static or is it moving?

Devotees: It's moving.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: It's moving. Do you know the speed with which this planet is moving? It's about 1,000 km per hour. It's practically the speed with which an aeroplane moves almost. Now the earth planet is moving with such a speed, and we all are situated on the surface, what would have naturally happened?

Devotee 12: Fall off.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: We should have all been thrown into space. But did it ever happen? Anyone ever got thrown into space? No. Why not?

Devotee 13: Gravitational pull.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Okay gravitational pull, now who created this gravitational pull?

Devotees: Krishna!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Why?

Devotees: Because He loves us!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Now this is one condition. Another condition is the earth is moving at a tremendous speed, we all are situated on the surface of the earth, say we are kept in our places with the gravitational pull. Now if the planet stops to move for a moment what would have happened? If for a fraction of a second the earth stops to move, then what will happen? Did you ever consider that? A car is moving at a tremendous speed and something is kept on the top of the car, that's also moving. But if the car stops all of a sudden then what will happen? Right, it will get thrown into space. Did it ever happen? Why not? Who made this arrangement?

Devotees: Krishna!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: So time and time again it is being established how much Krishna loves us. Another consideration is Krishna loves us, but do we love Him? Do we love Him?

♥ Krishna loves us, but do we love Him? Do we love Him?

Devotees: Yes.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Very good!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: But in many cases, they don't love Krishna. Many people don't love Krishna. Krishna loves you and you don't love Krishna, then will the love be complete?

Devotees: No.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Then how does a lover feel when his beloved doesn't respond?

Devotee 14: Hurt.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Hurt. Now can you imagine how Krishna is feeling? He loves us but we don't respond to His love. Krishna feels so bad. Now if someday, we write a letter to Krishna

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: A simple three words. "Krishna I Love You", then how will Krishna feel? He begins to dance in ecstasy.

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: and this is how our life actually becomes successful. Just by developing our love for Krishna. All we have to tell Krishna is "Krishna I Love You". He loves us; He's simply waiting for us to respond to His love. The love is there in our heart, it's only a matter of time of offering to Him. We are trying to offer it to so many people, so many different objects. So why not offer it to Him? So that is what Krishna is appealing to us, and Krishna is telling us that "just love Me". He's not directly saying "love Me". Krishna is feeling a little embarrassed. So He's simply saying "Surrender unto Me". That's the first stage of love, surrender. And when you surrender unto Krishna then the relationship begins. Then Krishna makes all the arrangement. Like this initial loving exchange is like that of a father and son. A very rich man has a son, and that son if he goes away from the father what will be his condition? Sometimes some people become mad and they leave, they run away from home and because they have become mad they don't remember who is their father, and how rich his father is because he has become mad. And Then that mad son, how does a mad man, how is a mad man treated in this world? He undergoes so many different types of difficulties. He doesn't get any food to eat, people laugh at him, mock him, beat him. He's treated in such a terrible way, but he's the son of a very rich man. And although the son has forgotten the father, although the son has gone away from the father, the father remembers the son. The father never forgets the son, and the father waits for the son to come back, and that is how Krishna is actually waiting for us to go back to Him, like the father waits for the son to come back. And when the son wants to go back to the father when the father gets to know the son is there he wants to come back to him, then doesn't the father make all the arrangements to bring the son back? Similarly when we express our desire to go back to Krishna, Krishna will make all arrangements to take us back.



♥ Simply by offering our love to Krishna

That is how simple this loving exchange with Krishna is. AND this is how most wonderfully we can become rewarded simply by offering our love to Krishna, and that is what Bhagavad Gita is reminding us. That is what Srila Prabhupada is reminding us. That's why it's so important to read Srila Prabhupada's books. How many of you became interested in Krishna consciousness by reading Prabhupada's books? Please raise your hands. (Devotees raise their hands) So this is it. Just by reading Srila Prabhupada's books we become attracted to Krishna, we understand that how much He loves us, and we understand how simple it is to reciprocate our love for Him, to re-establish our loving relationship with Him, and that is how we can make our life successful. We have to remember this point very, very seriously that the goal of our existence is to develop our loving relationship with Krishna. So let's try to do that. It's not difficult at all, and Prabhupada has shown us how simple, how easy it is. Now I told that about writing a love letter to Krishna. Now yes we can also write a love letter to Krishna saying how much we love Him, but there is another way of expressing, saying that love to Krishna that "Krishna I love you". That's even simpler. Even an illiterate person who cannot write. To write you have to become literate. So even if one is illiterate, still he can develop his loving relationship with Krishna, simply by telling Krishna, "Krishna I love you". He doesn't have to write it. He simply has to go to Him, or tell Him,

♥ "Krishna I love you", and how do we say that in Sanskrit?

"Krishna I love you", and how do we say that in Sanskrit? We say that in Sanskrit, the Sanskrit way of saying "Krishna I love you" is: Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare, Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare!

Devotees: Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare, Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare!

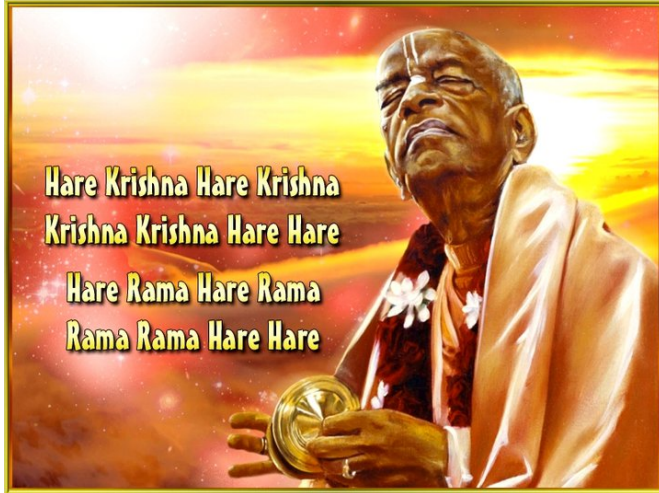
His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: So you want to love Krishna?

Devotees: Yes!

His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami: Yes? Are you going to say that to Krishna? How will you say that? Say

Devotees loudly: Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare, Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare!

Thank you very much. All glories to Srila Prabhupada



2. Srila Prabhupada appreciation

If you want to be not only happy, if you want to become even more than happy, if you want to become joyful, then please come to ISKCON, and act according to the instructions that Srila Prabhupada has given in his books. ISKCON is the institution that has been designed by Srila Prabhupada to distribute the love of Godhead, Love for Krishna, to teach us how to love Krishna. And is Prabhupada concocting some ideas or developing some new way or..? No. Srila Prabhupada and actually presenting the process that the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Krishna has given. Prabhupada did not create anything new. Krishna has given us all these informations.

3. Guru Maharaja's Instructions

- ♥ This is how our life actually becomes successful. Just by developing our love for Krishna. All we have to tell Krishna is "Krishna I Love You". He loves us; He's simply waiting for us to respond to His love. The love is there in our heart, it's only a matter of time of offering to Him; and
- ♥ Just by reading Srila Prabhupada's books we become attracted to Krishna, we understand that how much He loves us, and we understand how simple it is to reciprocate our love for Him, to re-establish our loving relationship with Him, and that is how we can make our life successful.

(The content of this E-magazine was based on a lecture given by His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami at ISKCON Leicester UK, on 15 May 2010)

(Compilation & editing by Hemavati Radhika dasi)