

April 11, 1981
Kirtan, Quintessence Ashram

[To Raja Ram] You are not the music of your flute, you are not the picture that you have drawn. No, you have done this as an expression of what you have grasped, out of love, you have put it into a nutshell, a microscopic, condensed form... God is in this love, just as the sweetness is in the hard core of the sugarcane, and by squeezing it you get the syrup of it.

This earthplane – is this the real earth? *You* are made of earth, *you* are the brick, the temple. And God does not just stay in the earth, he is everywhere in the earth; but he manifests more in the human being. There is more divinity in man. If I squeeze all this bone, marrow, intellect etc, what is left is devotion in its essence.

You have to have freedom, internal freedom. God doesn't like it, Sarada Devi doesn't like it if people hang around her skirts. 'I have made you out of myself [God says]; I would like you to feel your freedom. Ask me anything, I will give.' And when you ask a good question it's a boon to the world. Like Arjuna's question to Sri Krishna [which led to the Bhagavad Gita]. Krishna said, 'Listen my friend, among devotees I am you.'

[Swamiji reads]: "The Guru is not different from the Self, from Consciousness." Yes, a self without consciousness is nothing but a Londoner self, it's bricks, it's jumble. But if you live in London and have the Consciousness, what are you? A city of light. You are a city of light, floating in London, transporting many Londoners. "This is beyond doubt the truth, the absolute truth. Hence a wise man must seek a guru."

Raja Ram: Does the guru choose the disciple or the disciple choose the guru?

Swamiji: The guru is like the light, he is the light. The disciple is like the moth. The guru is always attracting. But it's a slow procedure. Now, if you don't make the self-effort, you are born and die as yourself. Oh yes [they say], he was a nice man, he didn't say anything wrong to anybody; unfortunately he died; in peace; marble slab.

But we pick and choose, we look within and without, we see your interest. It's not just for a day, a few things here and there, then finish. No, we see your interest. We see what has caused a ripple in your consciousness, what has disturbed it in one way. We like that ripple.

But if it is completely forgotten, the path becomes icy, and when the path is icy, if you're not very balanced with sattva [predominating] in the gunas, you may fall. Rajas will make you fall, tamas will make you fall. Therefore you have to be consciously, daily, cleansing, wash every day. But one wash a day was not enough when you were born; when you were born you needed so many washes, nappies, all kinds of things; so too when you live in consciousness you need all this, this daily cleansing, you have to be cleansed, daily, more than daily. Because it's for ever. It's Him that has become time. He has become *Kala*, He has become *yuga*. The yuga is millions of years that has divided himself into years, years has subdivided into months, months has subdivided into days, days into hours, hours into minutes, minutes into seconds, and He is still, minus all this, one without all this, one without a second.

So are you ... are you ...are you? What, what? Are you consciously, conscientiously, breathing, eating, sleeping, drinking while you are on Earth? Do you know why you are born here? Therefore we accept the idea of the game of free will. Free will is nothing but a test, a test of your personal feeling, effort, acceptance, rejection. In the long run, everything rests here, in the lotus, the hand of Lord Vishnu; everybody's mind, brain, will, intellect, rests in

the hand of the Goddess or Lord Vishnu's lotus hand. All is a symbol: sun, moon, earth, fire, water, you, me - all is a symbol. It's a diagram, an art. Life is an art. Be an artist, be a professional artist - of what? Of your life.

We are still dolls fallen from heaven, poupées. We will not become beings, human beings, with the value of a human being, until God has blown His holy breath into our nose; and when holy breath is being used by us consciously, 'Sa Aham, Aham Sa - I am He, I am She', only then will we become aware of our purpose: how to work, how to live, how to bear, how to forbear, how to choose, how to discriminate, what to do, what not to do. Do you command things or do things command you? Are you tempted, or are you tempting? You can't say no to these things. Poor little things!

The guru is a gem, the disciples are the buyers. So before you give your money be sure you don't give it to a false, a sham! Buy something worthy. It doesn't matter if you sell all your fortune to buy one gem. Find the real Man, and the purpose of life is attained. Enough! Just do one sixteenth [as Ramakrishna says] and the rest will be done. Make one step [as Sai Baba says] and I make the rest. Approach me first, and then I approach you. Well, I am approaching you, but not in a physical way, in a circum, a roundabout way, I am taking my time, I am approaching many things. I am a rover, a ranger.

'Roaming in the grove of Vedanta, ever pleased with his beggar's morsel,

Sitting at the foot of a tree for shelter, using the palms of his hands for eating,

Wrapped in a garment fine or ugly, blessed indeed is the wearer of the loincloth.' Yes, yes, yes.

So you must see if your guru is worthy of his guruhood. Is he guruhood or is he Hollywood in his mood? Does God use your guru, or do you think of him as being used? There are two things, one is to seem to make him a ladder with your thought, and another is for God to use *His* thought to make a ladder. There is a vast difference. You are the living earth. So it's *your* consciousness that must grow before your trees grow, or your flowers, your crop. It's *you* that must expand to the infinite. It's *you* that matters. So make sure you have connected this ladder, so that the eternal guru alights in the individual guru, and then there will be no individual guru, it will be all the eternal Lord, it will be all His will, my child. I am only a mike, a speaker, I am only expressing the creation, the creative side, the means, the appliance, how an instrument can be used to reach infinity. Now it depends on you.

The guru shows the path, tells the truth; it depends on the disciple, so watch your sight, watch your hearing, be discriminative. Be limited, be limited in your tummy, be limited in your tongue. Be 'Company limited'. Be limited here first. This is not yours, it's His, He dwells here. He is everywhere, but He is known to dwell at a certain place. So you have no need to travel round the world. Dive deep. A man who has learnt to swim with knowledge, and dives deep, he knows where to get the gems.

So you must not be distracted. Here is a turningpoint. You are not a capsized victim. You have been surviving the danger of life, the crossing of the ocean of existence, with the raft of Thy Name. So you are very safe, but you must keep the Name like an amulet. Don't let go, because if you lose that AM you go into the *loo* and finish. *Toi/et*.

The devotee can go on holiday, sometimes he withdraws, he is not monotonous. [To Raja Ram] You play the same flute, but do you always play the same tunes? The same rudimentals, no doubt, but you have a variety of melodies for the same Lord. So many compositions, sometimes fast, sometimes slow, sometimes meditative, sometimes rajasic, sometimes tamasic. Different moods and temperaments. Now you feel like shouting to God, now you feel like clapping, or jumping out of the well like a frog, seeing the world, enjoying

it, sometimes going back into the cave, back into the well. No one knows about you. Contemplation, samadhi. Where is the frog? Back in the well!

If you haven't seen God, it's a very good thing to see God through the real guru. God's expression is simple, direct. You have to take time to learn the alphabet in order to read Guru Gita or any kind of scripture. But to read God – it's in the very palm of the hand ... This hand is Sai, this is Baba. Joined together, this is God. Therefore Sai Baba is in your hand. He materializes pictures, *vibhuti*, everything, in the palm. Sarada Devi says [God is] in the palm; Ramakrishna makes Chin Mudra in the palm. All in the palm, supporting, saving. *Rakshamam, pahimam*. This is the doership. Who builds? The foot? No, it's the hand that puts together, the hand.

Devotion is possibility, the entry of the possible. The possible entry of realization. You don't have to have qualifications. You don't need much initiation. [Shirdi Sai says] 'You harass me to whisper something in your ear, yet my guru never whispered anything in my ear, never uttered anything. Yet I could never take my eyes off him.' It's *gu* (darkness) now, but when you have got this it will be *ru* (light) dispelling darkness. And *ru* will not be without *shakti*, and devotion, and you will see how the Mother makes the world possible. The Mother is the basis of action, of *kriya*, of activity, of will. And She is self-willed. Impossible becomes possible. She says, 'Sit quiet, I will make you see.' You don't have to know anything. So just sit quiet when the Mother tells you, and see, watch. You sit so quiet to watch a whole film, or a television programme. Ah, devotee, can't you be quiet to watch the real sight of God through your sadhana?

Raja Ram: Everyone would do that if they meditated and saw God ...

Swamiji: If they meditate...That's the question. What is the process of meditation? If they meditate, if they meditate, if they meditate, let it go perpetually like an AUM: If they meditate if they meditate if they meditate, how to meditate how to meditate how to meditate how to meditate how to meditate; if they meditate how to meditate if they meditate how to meditate if they meditate how to meditate if they meditate how to meditate. Come on, come on, how to meditate how to meditate how to meditate how to meditate, love love love love love, you don't have to meditate, love love love love love, it's acquaintanceship, love love love love love, it's acquaintanceship, love love love love, it's acquaintanceship, love love love love, it's everywhere, love love love love, it's everywhere, and God is everywhere, that's it, and God is the greatest meditation.

You must become what we have said. When you have become in action, God exists in a month, He exists in a day, He exists in a minute, He exists in a second. The minute you have brought that idea of a second valid, this is called proper full meditation. The rest is with Him. What do I care for my meditation. Love becomes meditation.