

MITTĪ-1

I heartily welcome all of you devotees. You all have come here. You must have come with some expectations. So, all of us must know, what are our expectations and, what actually should be our expectations. Different things!

As it is well known that even the most foolish people, they don't perform anything without a goal; so, even the most foolish people have some goal, some motto behind each of their activities. If a foolish person has some goal; surely an intelligent person must also have some goal behind each and every activity. Today, we will discuss and know that **it is the great irony of this material world that we don't know what actually we want and who actually wants.**

If someone is going by train and the checker comes and asks, "Where do you want to go?" And the traveler says, "I don't know." "Till which station, I should give you ticket?" The traveler says, "I don't know" So, this is surprising, that one is travelling but does not know, where one wants to go. All of us are travelers..., passengers. Indra - the demigod or an ant or everyone, we all are on a journey. Travelling! Travelling means we must be having some goal, otherwise there is no meaning of the word 'traveler'. Even Lord Brahmā..., everyone is travelling. We want to attain something, so we must know, what actually we want to attain.

It is often seen, many people come to Me and say, "Guruji, we have everything, money..., everyone is settled, but it still seems that I am in search of something." So, the question should be asked, "Who is searching? And, which is actually the thing one is searching of?" Both the questions are very-very important –

✓ Who is in the search?

✓ And, what is being searched?

One may say, "I want to have 100 crores", then one should ask oneself, "Are you..., am I in search of money?" Think again, are you really in search of money? No! The sukha, the happiness which one gets from money, actually that is what one is searching for. Someone may say, "I want to eat delicious food." Ok! So, are you in search for some delicious food? No! The happiness, which one gets from eating delicious food, that happiness, is what one is in search of. So, we will see that we want so many things – cars, mobiles, bungalow, big houses, farm houses, actually one is not in search of these things..., the pleasure derived, happiness which one thinks one is getting from these things, that happiness actually..., basically we are in search of. Intentionally or unintentionally, **we are all always trying to get that happiness, ānanda, that happiness which has no boundaries..., after which no misery can touch us.**

So, question arises, who is desiring this? Who is hankering for happiness? Are only human beings? No, even the ant, the monkeys, the demigods, everyone on this planet only are desiring? No! Even on the other planets, everyone is desiring just happiness, ānanda..., everyone has only one goal that - I want ānanda uninterrupted.

Out of 84 lac species, 80 lac species cannot even know about - who wants happiness. If you ask animal, if he understands your language, if a dog..., if you ask, "Hey! What do you want?? He will say, "Ānanda..., the happiness!" Ok! "So, you engage sensually with anyone on the road, for ānanda?" "Yes!" "So, you eat here and there for ānanda?" "Yes!" It will also say, "I only want ānanda." If we understand his language somehow. Even an ant will say the same..., even the bird will say the same thing. But, if we ask, "Who wants ānanda?" Everyone will say, "I want" "But..., but who are you?" The dog will say, "I am a dog...." The donkey will say, "I am a donkey...." The human being says, "I am a man..." The demigod says, "I am a demigod" So if we ask anyone, what is your identification? Then this answer is ok, but we are not asking for your identification.

You want happiness, where are you right now? Where are you? You are in this material world. Material world is composed of earth, water, fire, air and ether, the five elements. Alright? Your body is also made up of five elements but who wants happiness? Your body is made up of five elements- earth, water, fire, air and ether..., so, does your hand wants happiness? No! Your ear wants happiness? No! Through all these things, ānanda..., happiness is what you want. But precisely eyes or ears or tongue, they don't..., they are not asking for happiness, they are dead matter. Then who is asking for happiness? They can never ask for anything, what to talk of happiness?

What is your body composed of? Earth..., does the earth need happiness? Can she..., can earth ask for any happiness? It's a dead matter. Water, second component your body is made up of, is water is asking for happiness? No. Is fire asking for happiness? No. Then who is air..., ether? What is your body made up of? This pañca tattva. Then who wants happiness, ānanda?

So, when we refer Scriptures and use our intelligence, we understand that we are something beyond these five elements and we want happiness..., so who are we? **We are spiritual..., we are the souls, the tiny particles..., spiritual particles. We want happiness.** Alright!

Constantly, every-moment, twenty-four hours, each and every person on the universe..., in all the universes, desiring only one thing, that is happiness. Problem is we don't even know, who is desiring, who that person is. The desirer is the soul; we, the soul, desires. **It's not that we have a soul, we are the soul.** We, the soul..., the

soul is desiring happiness. So, **we got the answer to the first question that the soul actually wants happiness, not a human being.**

We are in this material world, we want happiness. At the level of intellect, we will try to understand- whether happiness can be attained in this world or not? We are trying to attain ānanda, happiness here..., from what? From material objects, material things. We are non-stop desiring ānanda, happiness in this material world. Let's try to understand scientifically, can happiness ever be achieved in this material world?

Material world is composed of five elements- earth, water, fire, ether and sky. So, how do you want happiness from this material world? Ask yourself - do you want happiness from earth? Can earth give you happiness, dead earth? No! So, it's confirmed that earth cannot give you happiness because you are spiritual. Number two - Fire! Can fire give you happiness? No, it cannot. Second is also cancelled. Can water give you happiness? No. Can sky? Can..., from any of these five elements, can you get happiness? No! So, if from one element, you cannot get happiness... five individual elements, you cannot get happiness; then how can the combination of these elements give you any sort of happiness?

Someone may say, "I will get happiness from boyfriend." Alright! What is your boyfriend made up of? Oh! He is also composed of dead matter..., of these five elements- Miṭṭī kā putalā! So, how happiness can be attained from the dead things? Is the question valid? The greatest irony is..., in this material world is, our irrational, absolute irrational attachment to matter. Irrational means there's got no logic.

We are soul. Yes! So, it means- you are spiritual? Yes! Then, how can your diet be material? How can your diet be material if you are totally spiritual..., please tell Me? How can you attain happiness from dead material matter? Earth, water, fire, air and ether, everything is made up of this in this material world. Fire, air- can these things give you happiness? Why should we conceive happiness in these things?

May it be your body, your parent's body, Indra's body, Brahmājī's body, everything is made up of dead matter only. This is surprising that we are trying to find happiness from dead things. This is the reason we have not attained happiness till date..., our search is on, in a futile place..., futile search! There is no possibility of attaining it..., even in future, for eternity..., sure enough!

Soul is spiritual, how can it attain happiness from dead material things? And what silly desires we have? Big car! Alright..., acchā! What is big car made up of? Earth, water, fire, air and ether! Acchā, what is your boy friend made up of? Earth, water, fire, air, ether. We want diamonds jewellery..., acchā! So you want happiness from

diamond. What is diamond made up of? Carbon. So, can carbon give you any happiness? Strange! Strange concepts of happiness, you have made in your mind. And if we say, “You are little foolish”, then the person says, angrily he says, “Oh! What you call me? ‘Foolish’?” You are trying to get happiness from some carbon, so are you an intelligent person? Ask yourself! This world is a very strange place. People are so unique that everyone should be kept in museum... Uniquely foolish! Actually, books and books can be written on our foolishness, every second.

You want car? Acchā..., what is car? Just a metal box, what else? Oil, what else it is made up of? Ask yourself, can all these metals, oil..., can sitting in such a box, can give..., can it give a soul, a totally spiritual entity, any happiness? You want happiness from jewellery..., carbon..., diamond. It is a stone only. By hanging some stone around the neck of a human being, can a spiritual person be happy? A soul sitting inside this human body, can he be happy? We are spiritual..., please try to understand, our diet is spiritual, whatever we want is actually..., should actually be spiritual in nature.

No one will ever say, “Sometimes I want happiness and sometimes I want duḥkha, distress, misery.” No! No one will say that. We want uninterrupted happiness... You get that, when you are at the right place. Fish gets happiness in water, you take it out and put it even on diamond, home made up of diamond, it will not be happy. Similarly, we don’t belong to this material world, we are totally spiritual beings. We actually belong to the spiritual realm, so how can we attain happiness in this material world? Even if in this world, we are placed from one place to another, we feel uncomfortable. How can we - a totally spiritual being, can ever be happy? We are in a foreign place, totally abroad place..., we are foreigners in this material world, we don’t belong to here. You must have heard that when people from foreign countries visit India, by eating different food, they fall ill and when they go to their native place, they say they will be healthy, comfortable. Similarly, this material world is uncomfortable for all of us, spiritual beings. We belong to the eternal spiritual realm..., Spiritual World. We have come in a totally different world, alien atmosphere, dead material world..., trying to find happiness from dead material things.

We waste our entire life in gathering paper, currency papers - money, so to say. Can this currency, paper give anyone happiness? Mobile, what is mobile? A small tin, metal tin box, small. If a big box of a car cannot give you happiness, how can a small box can give anyone happiness? We are totally spiritual beings. We say, “We have a three room set house, we want a big house”. So, what is your big house made up of? It is also made up of dead things – earth, water, fire, air and ether. So, why are you so much attracted to these dead things? How can happiness be attained from these

things? Entire world is a combination of just five elements, dead elements..., even heaven, hell, everything is made up of these elements. How can we be happy in any part of this earth or of this material world or in this universe? There is no scope..., please understand..., not even in dreams, please understand, accept this!

Try to talk to a millionaire, ask him, “Mr. Millionaire, are you happy?” He will say, “Oh! What are you saying?” But, then you ask, “Why you earned so much money?” He says, “To sleep in peace!” Acchā..., you ask next question, “Are you able to sleep in peace..., having a sound sleep?” “No..., not at all, I have to take sleeping pills every day to get sleep..., sometimes even sleeping pills fail to bring sleep”. So this is the state.

Externally, we may have different situations, we may be a very rich person or a very famous person but internally we all are the same - spiritual beings, spirit souls, and we want happiness. Until one gets happiness, he will keep on searching for happiness ever and ever. You don't..., you don't require to become a super intelligent person to understand that a dead material element, individually or collectively, cannot give anyone any happiness.

There are only 3 principles, Tattvas..., what are they? We, the living entities, the jīva and the other two options for jīva are - The Lord and this material world. I want happiness, who is I? The jīva! There are only two possibilities - either this material world or The Lord. So, this world is made up of 5 dead elements. So, there is no possibility of getting happiness here..., no possibility..., absolute no possibility! So, the only option left for us is, it can be attained only through The Lord.

The Lord is the personification of happiness, *Satyam Vijñānam Brahma!* Lord is ānanda, this is science. Taittirīya Upaniṣad also says:

*“raso vai saḥ, rasam hy evāyam labdhvānandī bhavati  
ko hyevānyāt kaḥ prānyāt yadeṣa ākāśa ānando na syāt eṣā hy evānandāyati”*  
(Taittirīya Upaniṣad 2.7.1)

He is Rasa..., ānanda personified.

Brahma Valli also says, ‘eṣā hy eva ānanda dāyati’..., He is the giver of ānanda, happiness, only He, *eva!* ‘eṣā hy eva ānanda dāyati’..., He is the giver.

*“daivī hy eṣā guṇamayī, mama māyā duratyayā  
mām eva ye prapadyante māyām etām taranti te”*  
(Bhagavad Gītā 7.14)

Only by surrendering to The Lord, one can come out of material life.

Similarly, only Kṛṣṇa *eva...*, only Kṛṣṇa can give happiness, *eṣā hy eva...*, only He! *rasam hy evāyam labdhvānandī bhavati*, only by attaining Him, one can attain happiness. He is happiness personified, He is the form of happiness, condensed form of happiness! Without Bhagavad prāpti, without attaining The Lord, happiness can never be attained, it is not possible. Please try to understand, Bhagavad prāpti - attainment of The Lord, they are synonyms..., ānanda prāpti, Bhagavad prāpti, they are all synonyms.

We think, “I will attain happiness by other means or by some way, I will make my family happy.” “Dear! neither you can attain happiness from dead matter, nor your father nor your mother nor your uncle or grandmā or anyone. You must understand and accept this thing very clearly, what Happiness is. **Lord Himself is happiness.** Can you get happiness from metal, tin, water? Can you get Lord from metal, tin? No! Can it be acquired by one’s own efforts? No! *Nā-asti...*, Muṇḍaka Upaniṣad says, *Nā-asti...*, not by one’s endeavors. **Happiness is prasāda svarūpa, bestowed by the mercy of The Lord.**

*“tam eva śaraṇam gaccha sarva-bhāvena bhārata  
tat-prasādāt parām śāntim sthānam prāpsyasi śāśvatam”*

(Bhagavad Gītā 18.62)

We only have to surrender to The Lord, and when once, He is truly pleased, by His blessings, He gives Himself to us eternally..., for eternity. One will never get happiness in material dead matter, even if one tries to search happiness. The only thing one will get is a garland, a garland of birth and death. So, if you want to carry on wearing this birth and death garland, then try to find happiness in this material world.

One who has given us this life, He will tell us the way of living this life - art of living! He will teach us! No one can manufacture art of living on one’s own. Have you created this world? No! Who has created? Chāndogya Upaniṣad, so many Upaniṣads say - by mere glance, He created this material world. So, the one who created this world, He will tell us, what is a remedy, what is a way out to achieve happiness.

Bhagavad prāpti, ānanda prāpti, pure devotion, pure bhakti, are all the same..., they are synonyms, there is no difference, absolutely no difference between them.

We often see that the devotees chanting Harināma, doing everything, but still aren't happy..., why? Because pure devotion, ānanda prāpti are the same; not khicaḍi bhakti, hotch-potch bhakti, that whenever we feel like we go to temple, when not feel like we don’t go; whenever I feel like chanting, chant, when don’t feel like, we

don't; when I feel like reading, we read. No! Ekāgra..., single pointed intelligence! We should endeavor for that where there is scope of happiness.

We are taṭasthā śakti! There is an ocean, on one side is a plain road and other side is the water and we are in between, so we can either go to the nectar ocean of happiness or on the other side, the dead side..., dry side is a material world, we can go there..., this is the option we have.

We will not get happiness in dead material world made of five elements, we will get happiness only by drenching ourselves in the ocean of happiness - Kṛṣṇa. But if we take 2 steps forward and 3 steps backward and then go 1 step forward etc., then we are just swing back and forth..., will not go anywhere. But, once we go inside the ocean, we surely will be drenched in happiness, we will be filled with happiness, if we walk the path straight. The problem is, we are not walking the path, we are doing khicaḍī, hotch-potch bhakti..., meaning Kṛṣṇa we want and māyā also. We think we want both, then we are actually not heading anywhere. Once we have known the path of happiness, then we should walk the path straight!

In ancient times, when there was nothing, farming was done by the tractor and then..., now you have a Mercedes car... And if with the Mercedes car, you continue to do farming, then who will call you intelligent? The dogs, cats etc., they are eating..., engaged in eating, sleeping, mating and defending, that is acceptable. But if we too do the same, it is like with the Mercedes, we are trying to do the farming and that too at the speed of 10 kilometers an hour..., so it's very foolish.

Our intelligence and Indra's intelligence is the same. Once, The Lord mercifully gave His Darśana to Indra and asked him, "Indra! What do you want?" Indra said, "Lord! I...I...I..." He did not say, "I want You" He said, "I want angels..., the women, the pretty women." So, he is also the same as we are. He also thinks that happiness can be attained from the dead matter. No one..., male or female can get any happiness from any material person, any material thing, because everything is just dead matter. But, it always happens this way..., the males gets attracted to females..., females with the males, and when we see a plate full of eatables, we get attracted to that or if you see a lump of bricks, I mean a big house..., bungalow, we get attracted to that..., why? Because we think these things will give us happiness, nothing else!

If we understand this thing that I am a soul, we will stop going in the other direction, this direction of this material world. Then our journey towards the other side will begin, towards the side of The Lord. Understand - there is no happiness in this material dead world made up of five elements!



People try to become famous, want to become actor. Are the actors happy? No! If happiness was to be attained from them, then everyone would be happy; every rich person should be happy! We find in western countries also that 60% of the people, they take sleeping pills daily, they don't get sleep. Actually, only by Lord's mercy, one gets sound sleep! In USA, I heard there is a great profession of sleeping doctors. We can see, how stupid people in certain countries have become, that they keep on trying various means to attain happiness in this..., this dead material world, and what they get is not even sleep, what to talk of getting happiness?

*“nāsti buddhir ayuktasya na cāyuktasya bhāvanā  
na cābhāvayataḥ śāntir aśāntasya kutaḥ sukham”*

(Bhagavad Gītā 2.66)

One who doesn't even know how to sleep..., doesn't even know how to lie down, how can he be awake? Uṭṭiṣṭha... Jāgrta! Vedas tell us, Get up from this sleep of this ignorance of trying to find happiness in this material world.

When we have exam the next day, we put on many alarms..., we don't want to miss it. We even ask our mother or friend that, you know, I have put alarm, I may..., you know, sleep, and you please wake me up. If we can't even wake up materially from our own endeavors, then just try to imagine how can we get up on our own, spiritually?

Spiritually not going to the side of The Lord, for getting happiness. Otherwise, one horror story will end that we couldn't find happiness in this material world, another horror story of finding happiness in the material world will start. This has happened so many times. So now, we should change ourselves.

Bhagavad Gītā tells, what is good for me is good for all living entities; 6<sup>th</sup> chapter!

*“sanniyamya indriya-grāmaṁ sarvatra sama-buddhayaḥ  
te prāpnuvanti mām eva sarva-bhūta-hite ratāḥ”*

(Bhagavad Gītā 12.4)

That is why a devotee preaches - what is good for him. The Lord is good for everyone, He is the happiness personified! He preaches for the welfare of everyone.

You think by becoming a hero or whatever, you will become happy. No! Similarly, it is with money... You think you will get happiness from money, but those who have money, they don't get happiness from money; then how can you get happiness from money? If the hero heroine, the famous people, they are not happy with all the fame, how can you be happy? You want..., how can you be happy from intense money? You think: will give you happiness; immense money! You see many famous

personalities committing suicide; if there was happiness in fame, everyone would have been happy. So, the way everyone gets happiness, I can also get happiness that way only. You can not invent your own way of happiness; please try to understand. I will attain that way...this way; how? You just tell Me how? All of the laws of The Lord will have to be amended, if anyone could get happiness from dead material things; everything will have to be changed.

Because of not understanding: only by Bhagavad prāpti...attaining Lord, we can get happiness, we are destroying not our lives but destroying the lives of our relatives...friends and family members also; why? Because we ourselves, we do not know- what is right, we are moving in the wrong direction and trying to move others in the wrong direction also. If we do not know: what is right, how can we tell others: what is right? Can you even imagine: the dire consequences of doing such a thing? By killing...murdering even one person, there's so very heavy punishment; and if we are killing so many people...so many people all the time.., how severe the punishment would be! Just imagine: if the people dependent on you, do not understand the knowledge that: happiness is by attaining The Lord, then how many times they will have to take birth? And, you will be responsible for giving all the wrong advises because we have given them birth...they are dependent on us. Then, we should be giving them right advise: Do pure devotion, otherwise there is no scope for any happiness; we don't give this advise. And sometimes, it is seen that the devotee parents tell children: no... no, don't do too much of bhakti; can we imagine the kind of consequences... tremendous punishment one is going to get, with the compound interest?

I give you an example: there is a young girl, she goes to her sister-in-law and says: oh bhābhī! Oh sister in law...oh dear sister in law! I want a lady, who is.., elder lady, who is very loving, a mother-in-law kind of figure, and I also want a father, father-in-law kind of figure, who really loves me, and I also want a very brotherly figure, brother-in-law, who jokes with me...plays with me, and elder brother-in-law, who scolds me also; and what else do you want? I want another sister-in-law also of my age, with whom I can talk; then this bhābhī will say: It means basically you want a husband! And, if you say: no no no, I don't want a husband... I want everything...all of this, without a husband...except husband. Are Bābā! This is a package deal... if you get husband, you will get all of them along with the husband. Same is our state ~ we don't want The Lord, but we want happiness...we want peace...we want bliss...we want everything but we don't want The Lord. The Lord says: all this is a package deal; you will get automatically all this, once you attain The Lord. I don't feel like speaking all this but what to do? Have to speak all this; we don't understand the other way.

We sing Ārtī- Prahlāda āhlāda dāyine totally without feelings; if The Lord is a giver of happiness to Prahlāda; can the giver of your happiness, be someone else? We sing:

*“śrī guru caraṇe rati, ei se uttama gati  
je prāsade pūre sarva āśā”*

(Śrī Guru Vandana)

By Their mercy, all my desires will be fulfilled; by whose mercy? By Lord's Mercy...the pure devotee's mercy, and what are we doing after that then? We are doing exactly the opposite activities, then how will our desires be fulfilled? How we are going to attain happiness in our life? We truly need to understand this thing very clearly: there is no happiness in this material world...dead world, made of matter; no happiness! Once we understand this, then our journey to happiness will begin; right now, our journey has not even started. We are not understanding that: there is no happiness in all the material worlds put together; not even iota of happiness.

For example: if you want to make a śāhī panīra, some dish; if we ask lady, she will tell us the way: first put tomato, then salt, then panīra and you know goes on ~ do like this and then the dish will obtained; it is a science. Whimsically, if we make thing, then it will not be the dish. Similarly, the Lord has blessed us with the scriptures to make us happy; another name of the scripture is: How to be a happy. This is the book; and our father is so loving, he has given us this recipe: How to be happy!

We think ourselves body; so we think that: by satisfying our senses, we will be happy. We think: satisfaction of our senses ~ will be our satisfaction. By putting something on the tongue, I will be happy; are you tongue? By hearing some frequency, I will be happy, some sound...movie sound! By the touch of another body, I will be happy; it is just a kind of itching, and we think: just by doing itching, we will be happy. No! So, when the living entity considers itself with the senses...when we identify ourselves with the senses; what do we think? The satisfaction of my senses is my satisfaction. **In reality, you are different, your senses are different! These are your senses; this is not you; you are beyond the senses,** and The Lord...the happiness is also indriyātīta, it is also beyond the senses.

When you are in the womb of your mother, these senses were not even born...were not there with you since beginning. 5<sup>th</sup> Canto Bhāgavatam tells us that: after many months, hands and legs appear, they were not there in the starting; The Lord gives senses later. We think ourselves to be the master of the body; we were not its master. The Lord has given us this body as a gift; we have not got it with us. When we were in the womb of mother, we were just a piece of lump in the beginning~skins...cells...muscles... I mean: there was no hand...no leg...no nail...no hair...no

mouth...no ear...nothing was present initially but still you think..., but still you were there in that piece, piece of lump. Now, it has grown and senses have come out, and ears etc. and then you start thinking: the satisfaction of these is my satisfaction; you were there, before these things even came in existence, later you had hands...ears mouth...all of these have come later; how can satisfaction of these senses, be your satisfaction? Ask yourself: Can it be?

All of us believed that human life is very important, but we don't believe that each day of human life is very important; how foolish we are? Human life is important? Yes! - Rare? Yes! - But, what about days? We don't believe the days of human life are important, so we are searching for happiness that means that, we believe that we will get happiness here; the misconception is still remaining. Whether we are married or not, we will indulge in extra marital affairs or relation with the other girl or boy; isn't it if we are convinced that I am this body and happiness is here. You may think that: Oh! I am not getting happiness from this fat wife...not good looking husband, then we will go for illicit relations because there is no impetus...no higher cause to go for, then we go here and there only.

One wants happiness, without being connected to The Lord- this is so strange! It is as if ~ we want fragrance, without the flower. Dear! If there is a flower, fragrance will automatically come. We want current, electricity current without connection to the power house; you get connected to the powerhouse, automatically electricity current will come. Our sorrow state is: we want to be happy with the living entity...with each other; who are we? We are fuse batteries and if you want to be happy; you want to be happy, by getting connected to another fuse battery? Think rationally: are you going to get happiness...any charge? When we get connected to power house, automatically the battery will be charged; isn't it?

And what do we want? Happiness! Children think: they will get happiness from parents....parents think: they will get from children... girls think: they will get happiness from boys....boys: from girls; very-very strange- all are fuse batteries only! How can happiness be attained by them? That person himself is a beggar, he himself is in the search of happiness; how can he give you happiness, which he doesn't have?

The root cause of all these misconceptions is that, one thinks that: there is happiness....there is happiness in this material world, which others are getting and he is not getting, that is why then he tries to search. We stay with our relatives, etc. and we keep on giving wrong advices and what are its consequences? That our life also gets spoiled and our dependents...relatives...people...family life also get spoiled.

Sometimes, we think that: by wearing good clothes, I will be happy. For example: this is a wooden box, you are seeing in My hand, if you decorate it with good

clothes...put anything on it...put thousands of dollars, is this box going to feel anything, wooden box? Similar is our body; as the wooden box is dead, so is our body ~ dead; only we, the souls, are alive. Just as the wooden box, same is a hanger ~ on which the clothes are kept; all these are dead. So, if we decorate the dead things, how are we going to get any happiness? We are sitting inside this dead thing...inside this dead body of a human being.

Ultimately it's our choice, whose voice we listen to? Māyā is attracting us towards itself: Come on! Come on! Come on! I will give you happiness; Kṛṣṇa is also calling: Come on! I am Happiness Personified. Now the choice is with us. And, if we go towards The Lord, we will always be happy ~ both in the practicing stage, the sādhanā kāla and in the siddhi, of course. And The Lord had said:

*“rāja-vidyā rāja-guhyam pavitram idam uttamam  
pratyakṣāvagamam dharmyaṁsu-sukham kartum avyayam”*

(Bhagavad-Gītā 9.2)

One who is practicing devotion properly, he is always happy!

Is māyā- our friend or our enemy? Enemy! No, Māyā is our friend. Why? Because one world! One Lord! And one jīvā! So, māyā repeatedly kicks us ~ I don't have happiness; go there...go there... there is no happiness in me; she is saying: Go towards The Lord. So, she is not our enemy, she is our dearest friend; we consider māyā our enemy but actually it is our friend. Māyā is śakti of The Lord...the potency of The Lord. It teaches us in various ways: dear jīva, living entity! I don't have happiness... I give you suffering again and again, so that you go to the right side, go there towards The Lord; she is sending us towards The Lord. Just Think: we have so many sufferings...our mother and our father and you know, no one loves us and we have so many problems, financially...mentally etc...physically, and inspite of all this, we are not going towards The Lord; imagine if there were no such problem, would have never ever even thought of going towards The Lord!

Caitanya Bhāgavat says.., Vṛndāvana Dāsa Ṭhākura says: everything is very intimately related to The Lord; very intimately... everything and everyone! Every jīvā has a very deep...intimate relation with The Lord...very thickly connected to The Lord; so how should we perceive the other person? That the other person is very dear to The Lord and we should engage each one in bhakti. We want people.., we want people should give me enjoyment. What does a husband want? - That wife is meant for my enjoyment. Dear Prabhuji, you are Kṛṣṇa dāsa and you wife is Kṛṣṇa dāsī, the servant of Kṛṣṇa. We need to understand this thing very clearly: the moment sense gratification comes in ~ we forget that everyone is having a very intimate relationship with The Lord. And, we want that person for our enjoyment; what does

that mean? It means that: suppose to The Deity Altar, the offering of food... chappana bhoga is been taken for the altar and some demon comes in between and says: I would not let Lord eat, I will enjoy this chappana bhoga, not The Lord; similarly, this wife is meant for my enjoyment, not for Lord's enjoyment, I am the legally wedded husband, I will enjoy my wife; this is not right! Everyone is very much intimately related to The Lord; everything belongs to The Lord.

*“ayam bandhurayam neti gaṇanā laghucetasām  
udāracaritānām tu vasudaiva kutumbakam”*

(Hitopadeṣa, Māhā Upaniṣad 6.72)

Everyone is Lord's family!

In all situations, we want happiness and only happiness! And, happiness can only be attained by getting connected to the personification of happiness ~ by doing proper bhakti. *Rasaṁ hy evāyam labdhvānandī bhavati*, by attaining him...by attaining The Lord, the happiness is attained.

\*\*\*Hare Kṛṣṇa\*\*\*