

## SPENDING TIME WITH YOU, GOD

# ALL WORK IS MY WORK

## DEDICATING EACH ACT TO YOU

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Look at the crane – it walks about pretty fast

in water. But, during that walk, it cannot catch any fish. It must, for that purpose, become slow and quiet and stand

motionless. So also, if one proceeds with greed, anger and other evil qualities, one cannot secure the fish of truth, love and

peace. You must chant the Name of the Lord. Then, you will surely overcome the natural traits of greed and anger. Hold on to the Lord as the Universal Goal and make Him the destination of your life's journey.

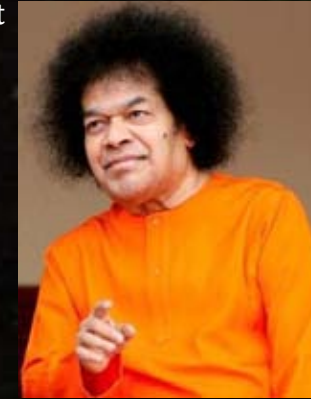
Practice control of speech and constant contemplation of the Lord. Then you will be able to subdue your mind that makes you restless, and gradually you will be filled with all the good qualities! ~ Thought for the Day 9.05.10

## LOVING DIFFICULT PEOPLE

**QUESTION:** There are some people whose behaviour I am not very pleased with. But I feel I have to start loving them because I love Swami. I met a person some time ago whom I did not like. I told Swami that I would make efforts to love this person. I need to apply this to everyone. How can I love someone whom I do not really like?

**RESPONSES:** When we do not understand others, we have a predefined mindset and tend to see what we want to see in them. If our mindset is bad, we will only see the bad in them. **I try to change my vision and focus on the God within that person through meditation.**

♥ I try not to judge people by asking myself how I would like to be treated and viewed.



♥ On Saturday we had a Sathyanarayana Katha (prayers) in our new home and I was extremely busy preparing for it all of last week. It is the first time I had hosted anything like this so I was a little nervous. I had the option of buying sweets for offering to God but I chose not to. Instead, I decided to make the sweets for Swami with my own hands. I decided to make Barfi (Indian milk toffee). I had watched my mum and sister make it but never had I tried to make it myself.

So lighting a lamp for Swami, I prayed for Him to work through these hands of mine - He must make the sweets for Himself. I had a few hiccups along the way, and lots of exclamations of 'Sairam Swami!'. It turned out just like my mum had prepared it, so I knew Swami really did make the Barfi. Thank you Swami.

♥ On the day of the Katha we had only a few hours sleep and were up at 3am to cook. I woke up missing home. I was missing my mum and dad a lot and did not know how I could get through the day without their help and guidance. I felt very low in spirit when I woke up. My husband told me not to worry, that Swami was going to take care of everything if I left it to Him. So with a tear in my eye, before even brushing my teeth, I lit a lamp in front of my smiling Swami, and handed the day over to Him. Then with added strength in my heart I went ahead with my day.

This is how Swami came to my aid. The food was ready well before time. It was delicious and lacked nothing. The requirements for the prayers were all met and we even had time to dress up properly. The day went so smoothly and everything was perfect. That perfection was only because of Him. He really took care of everything. That night my father-in-law said, 'When you set out to do something for Him, He takes care of it Himself.'

## CALLING ON YOU GOD

I became stuck on an assignment and did not know how to proceed. I totally forgot about Swami. Then after a period of struggling, I finally remembered Swami and asked for His help. The answer came straight away!

*'I was on my way to university listening to Bhajans. I was pumping my hand all the way saying 'I love You Swami! I Love You Swami!''*

♥ I keep surrendering my actions to Swami. I surrender each university class to Swami and try to do as much Namasmarana as I can. When I am at home, I listen to Bhajans while cooking, studying etc. Before going to bed, I read Sai Literature. Sometimes I find myself unconsciously repeating 'Om Sai Ram'.

♥ Swami filled us with so much energy when we were in His physical presence in 'Parthi. You can feel this energy when you tune into Him. I try to keep Him with me by doing Namasmarana, listening to His discourses and reading His literature. After visiting 'Parthi I am having difficulties fitting back to into the world but through Namasmarana I am slowly realising that He is everything. I see now how continuously chanting His Name becomes a habit. My Namasmarana has come to a level that my mouth keeps chanting His Name automatically. Chanting His Name has uplifted me. I yearn only for Him and want to keep holding on to Him forever.

♥ Singing Bhajans is what connects me to God. When I do this, I feel like making Him the centre of my life. Once I sing to Him, I feel I want only to be with Him. Coming to the Love@Work meetings also increases my connection and faith.

*'While I am doing Namasmarana I feel enveloped by Sai Ma. I feel the warmth of His love and very secure.'*