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Words of Wisdom – From our Guruji



AMRUTHA VAKKULU

Edmund Burke never had the habit of attending mass in the church. His friend was Father Larry who felt very odd about this. He asked burke : “Why is it you never come to church?” Burke said : “If i come to church, you will be in trouble since you have been repeatedly requesting me to come to church, this sunday i will come. Be prepared to face me.”

Larry prepared a beautiful sermon since he wanted to impress burke. After the sermon, the question hour started. Burke asked : “Father you said Good people, virtuous people those who believe in god, go to heaven. Now my doubt is good people, virtuous people who don't believe in god, where do they go?”

Now Larry was in trouble. If he says

good people, virtuous people who don't believe in god go to hell, then it means bad people full of vices who believe in god will go to heaven. All can do nonsense, believe in god and go to heaven. Larry said i will answer the question in next sunday mass.

Larry went through bible, old new testaments, david's goliath law and what not. No where he could find an answer. Only a few hours left for the sermon., he was tired and he slept.

He had a dream. He was travelling in a train and he got down in a station. The station was full of garbage and dust. It looked as though no one ever visited this place. There were a few people who were skinny and looked like beggars and not eaten for days. He asked : “Which place is this?” They replied : “It is the heaven.” Then he asked : “Where is Jesus Christ, St. Peter, Francis Xavier, Adi

Shankara, Budha?”

They said they have never heard these names. He asked if there is any other train going elsewhere. They said yes there is another train going to hell on the other platform.

He boarded that train. He thought heaven itself is in this condition and imagine how the hell must be. As the train approached hell, there was a lot of flora and fauna, greenery and light rain.

As the train stopped at hell, lots of people were dancing and making merry. As he got down, they invited him to join the party. He asked : “Can i meet Jesus Christ, Moses Xavier, Adi Shankara, Buddha, Lao Tzu?”. They said they were here long back. Larry got up from his dream.

He looked at Burke and smiled. He said : “Whether god exists or not i don't know, but good people, virtuous people can always transform hell into heaven.”

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LORD'S MERCY

&

GRACE !!!

Upcoming Events

- ◆ 11/23/2017
Thanksgiving Special Prayers
- ◇ Sri Sudarshana Yantra Pooja by HH Poojyasri V V Sridhar Guruji @ 9:30am
- ◇ Madhyaana Arathi @ 12:30pm
- ◇ Anna Koot @ 1pm
- ◆ 12/31/2017
New Year Eve Special Prayers

Sri Sai Satcharita in our daily life - Sankar Kumar



Dhamu Anna from Ahmad Nagar; Business Deals & Amra Leela

Let us prostrate to Baba with all the 8 parts of our body touching the ground to solve all our problems by reading these stories.

Dhamu Anna from Ahmad Nagar had been a long time devotee of Sri Sai. He participated in the Rama Navami celebrations from its inception, in various ways.

His cotton speculation Business deals: Once Dhamu Anna wanted to get into Cotton Speculation business and wrote to Shama requesting him to get Baba's blessings in this endeavor. When Shama approached Baba with the letter, Baba disclosed its contents without even opening and expressed his disapproval for the deal. It proved beneficial to Dhamu Anna, as the deal ended in huge losses to those who participated in. Similarly, a deal on grains also was disallowed by Baba which also saved Dhamu Anna as rain brought down the prices heavily and incurred losses to those who invested in the deal. Thus Baba saved him from a huge financial loss on both the occasions.

Once a devotee sent 300 mangoes from Goa and Baba distributed all among His devotees but saved 4 of them in His begging vessel [Kolamba] for Dhamu Anna who longed for children. Baba gave the mangoes to him and said 'Eat & Die!' Dhamu Anna was perplexed at this blessing but Mahalsapathi clarified that he should eat them and kill his ego. Baba told him to give the mangoes to his second wife who will be blessed to get children. True to His words, she gave birth to many children.

Baba promised that even after His death, his bones will be active inside the Samadhi and will encourage and bless His devotees. All one needs to do is to surrender to Him completely.

Our prayer should be like this :

O,Sai! Sathguru ! Ever full-filling wish tree! Let us not forget Your holy feet! Save us from from the birth-death cycle! Remove our desire and make us focus inwards!Relatives won't help! You are our only savior! Let us chant Your holy name without any discussions! Let us forget our body conscious and discard our ego, be calm and remember Your holy name always! Even a little embrace from You will give us the Light! Let us all remember these stories and be blessed by You!

The chapter ends with attestations from Dhamu Anna on the validity of the above stories and also on how Baba helped him even after his samadhi at various times.

**BOW TO SRI SAI
PEACE BE TO ALL!!**

LIFE APPLICATIONS

- * Seek Baba's advice and never go against it.
- * Chant the above prayer daily.
- * Remember Baba will answer your prayers even today if you pray sincerely.
- * Treat women as your mother.
- * Never interfere with another devotee's seva activity.

**Sri Satchitananda
SadGuru Sainath
Maharaj ki Jai!**



Saiamrutham — "Wealth is really a means to work out dharma. If one uses it merely for personal enjoyment, it is vainly spent."

SHANTILI AND THE SESAME SEEDS

There lived a couple, Shantili and her pious brahmin husband in a village. They were very poor and lived as per the religious norms of performing religious rites and getting paid and never hoarding money for more than they need. One auspicious day, the brahmin went to perform some Puja and asked his wife to make food for them and also another person, who he will bring with him to feed, as per the norms.

Shantili was taken aback and told him that they have enough food only for two people for that day. But her husband would not listen to her concerns and told her that they will eat what ever they have leftover, after feeding their guest.

When her husband left, Shantili washed the little sesame seeds that she had, removed the husk and had them dried in the sun. After a while, when she went to retrieve the seeds, she saw a dog running away after tasting it. Now, she was in a quandary, whether to use the same seeds or not. As she did not have anything much

in her house, she formulated a plan.

She went to her neighbour and offered her the sesame seeds, in exchange for uncleaned and unhusked sesame seeds. While her neighbour was naive and thought it is a good deal to exchange the uncleaned and unhusked seeds for the cleaned ones, her son was much smarter. He chastised his mother to think as to who would offer cleaned seeds for uncleaned ones. And so, when Shantili's plan failed she returned with her own seeds.

MORAL OF THE STORY

When something appears too good to be true, think and analyze and don't get carried away!!

SRIDHARAAMRITHAM

It is a miracle in life to find complicated issues getting sorted out in no time and wonder at people's capacity to complicate even simple issues.

SERVICES IN THE TEMPLE

Priest's services like Yantra Puja, Gruha Pravesham, Satyanarayana Vratam , Pitru Karma , Seemantham, Upanayanm, Vahana Puja etc., are available which will be performed at devotees homes for their good health and prosperity. We also do archanas, abhishekams for all our deities.

Seva (Volunteering) opportunities are also available at the temple.

For more details please visit our website:

**http://
www.sriamruthasai.org/
services/ or contact the
temple at 804-708-0867.**

HOW TO CULTIVATE BHAKTHI - PART 6

The next mode of Bhakthi is the “Dasaya”, cultivating the bhava as a Servant to God. Considering God as the Master and ourselves as the servant, and serving Him in all possible ways is called the “Dasya” bhava. Serving in temples, serving the devotees, serving the poor, are all different ways that would help cultivate Dasya bhava. The Dasya considers himself the slave of the Lord. He does not think about himself or his own needs. He is always thinking about fulfilling God’s desires.

Lord Hanuman is the best example of Dasya. He always thought about Rama and His needs. He always thought about ways of serving His Lord. Sri Ramakrishna said, “Lord Hanuman was able to cross the Ocean by the power of Rama’s name, but Rama had to build a bridge to cross the Ocean”. Such is the power of Lord’s name and Lord Hanuman’s Dasya Bhakthi. Lord Hanuman did not have any desires for Himself. He did not ask for anything in return for the things He did for Rama. His was pure and selfless Bhakthi. Vibheeshana and Sughreeva got their kingdoms in return for their help to Rama, but Hanuman got His place permanently near Rama’s lotus feet.

SAIRAM !!!

The Cow, In the Hindu scriptures, is not just another animal that walks and grazes on this Earth!

It is the only “animal” that hosts all the Gods and Goddesses on it’s “self” that speaks volumes of it’s worth!!

‘She’ chews on grass that is found everywhere!

But produces pure white milk in abundance, both for calf and humans, free of cost, to share!!

“She” leads a simple life, filled with unending grace!

Gives us leather, even at the end of “her” life’s race!!

How can we repay a soul so special, an embodiment of love & harmony!

Let us treat her well while she breathes, and bid her farewell with respect as “she” makes her way to the heavenly abode, a pious journey!!

*** 32 Forms of Lord Ganapathi (Bala Ganapathi & Taruna Ganapathi) ***

1. BALA GANAPATHI



Bala Ganapathi is the first among the 32 forms of Ganesha. He is the child form of Ganesha who is depicted with four hands.

Appereance of Bala Ganapathi

Bala Ganapathi holds a mango in his right lower hand, bananas in his right upper hand, jack fruit in left lower hand and sugar cane in left upper hand. He appears with a Modak in his trunk. Bala Ganesha shines in golden color like the rising sun. The appearance of Bala Ganapathi represents the importance of agriculture and the nature in this universe. He signifies his influence of the abundance and fertility of the earth.

Bala Ganapathi Dhyanam

**Karastha Kadalichutha Panasekshu Kapitthakam
Bala Suryaprabham Devam Vande Bala Ganapathim**

Worship

Bala Ganapathi is worshipped mainly on Ganesha Jayanthi Day and Ganesh Chaturthi festival as well. Bala Ganapathi upasana makes a person pleasant and gives him the courage to face any tough situation in life with great ease.

2. TARUNA GANAPATHI



Taruna Ganapathi is the second among the 32 forms of Ganesha.

Appereance of Taruna Ganapathi

What Taruna Ganapathi holds in his right hands (lower to Upper) : Tusk, Wood-Apple, Paddy Spikes and Elephant Goad. What Taruna Ganapathi holds in his left hand (lower to Upper) : Madak, Rose-Apple, Noose and Sugarcane branch. Taruna Ganapathi shines in red color like the noon day sun.

Taruna Ganapathi Dhyanam

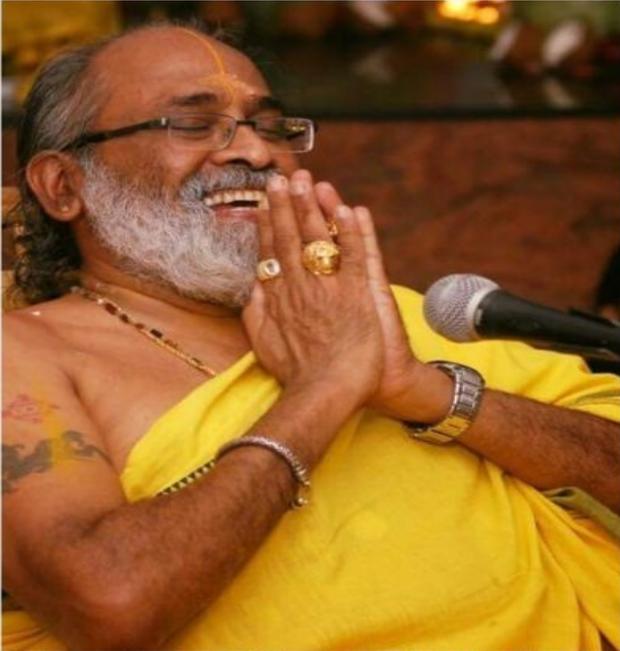
**Pashankushaapooa kapittha Jamboophalam
Thilam Chekshu Mapisana Hasthai Dhathe
Sadaaya Stharunaranabhah
Payasthayushmaan Tharuno Ganeshah**

Worship

Taruna Ganapathi is worshipped on Sankasthi Chaturthi, Ganesha Jayanthi, Ganesha Chaturthi, Durva Ganapathi Vrat etc. Those who worship Taruna Ganesha with be blessed with eternal happiness, joy and the courage to lead this life without any trouble or obstacle.

THANKSGIVING 2017 FLYER

*Let us Thank Baba for Everything
&
Celebrate Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 23, 2017*



Sri Sudarshana Yantra Puja

By

HH Poojyasri V.V. Sridhar Gururji

Madhyana Arathi @ 12.30pm

Anna Koot @ 1.00pm

Please sponsor the event to feed all our fellow devotees

Anna danam is the best in all danams....



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Prayogi

A magnificently illustrated and
stunningly interpreted retelling of
the mystical experiences of
His Holiness Sri V.V.Sridhar Guruji with
His Masters and His own experiences while
performing complex Prayogams
for the peace and welfare of humanity.

Graphically Interpreted

by



BobFu

Lord's Grace & Mercy



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The art of wonder and miracles go together, the only qualification needed to enjoy mysteries is that you must have the capability to wonder. Wondering is from the heart, a quality that is full of innocence and child-like. But unfortunately, we have gone in for questioning instead of wondering. Questioning is from the mind; it plays spoilsport with wonder. Once you start questioning, your mind is full of doubt and needs an answer. So you are busy addressing your doubts. Mind is into logic, calculations, manipulations. In the earlier days, the Lord's miracles and mysteries were enjoyed since people wondered. These days, questioning has spoiled your ability to wonder. There is a whole gamut of mysteries taking place around you, under the Lord's direction. You are busy questioning and missing all that is magical and wonderful. By the by, how can one be taught to wonder? It is the Lord's grace....

Many of us fail to experience joy mostly because of ego and expectation. The stubbornness in the person doesn't allow him to surrender and accept life. So you start fighting, if you win it boosts your ego and if you fails it leads to despair. You were always told life is a challenge, it has been conditioned inside you that life is tough and you have to equip yourself to face it. So you are asked to compete in a mad, mad race. Expectations are that you will win the race, but sometimes, despite a good show, things don't fall in place and you get depressed. This is the malady of expectation; life is simple, you are not the doer though you may be doing things. It's the force with you which is the doer. So bow down to that force and surrender totally. Don't be a man of mind, be a man of heart; full of unconditional love and compassion towards the entire existence. Shun ego. Don't compete. Everything will fall in its place as schemed by the Lord and not you. Realise this, grow and out grow.

Inner harmony is the key to joy! Learn to love without reasoning, you will be very joyous. Don't love because someone is beautiful; don't love because someone is intellectual; don't love because someone is affluent. Love with reasoning is bound to bring misery. A day will come when all your reasoning will drop, because reasoning is just a sort of defence. Drop that reasoning if you want to enjoy the truth, love is truth free of reasoning. When the truth stares at you, you will know all your reasoning as falsified.

Don't be too serious about life, don't have goals in life. Because, then you will become serious. Allow life to possess you, you cannot possess life. Enjoy this very moment of life and allow the next moment to unfold itself. Don't spoil the mystery of life through questioning, surrender totally to life. For life is God and Godly too. Life without reasoning, love without reasoning is Godly. Everything in this world is happening for the highest cause, only known to God. Oh how wonderful it is, when the Lord takes my tongue and lips and speaks through them. He takes my mind and pours out his thoughts. When it comes to the heart, he sets it on fire. Thank you, my Lord for all that you do; since the destination is unknown, it inspires me to keep going on the journey of life.

I choose Patanjali's words to describe my experiences to you all :
"Shabda Gyananupati Vastu-Shunyo Vikalpa"

Never is it possible to describe the reality of one's experience through words. Whatever I explain, I feel it is very much short of the reality I experienced and enjoyed, still, I will continue to share.

You should all thank Master Su Yen, for I was not interested in revealing anything. One day, He said "My son, time has come for you to reveal the things that have happened in your life." I said, "Oh Master, I had no interest in doing all that." Master Su Yen "It's my order, start doing it, no questions to be asked, I want you to reveal everything and it's an irreversible order from me."

I too have taken a choiceless decision in this regard, that's when I started revealing . . .

- V.V.Sridhar

TANTRA

Normally persons who have been initiated into Tantra practice, have experienced the Lord as they live this life, they see the Lord in every micro aspect of life howsoever mundane it may look. To them, the Lord and life are inseparable, there is nothing like good or bad, right or wrong, perfect or imperfect, for the Lord is the doer and they always know that the Lord is beyond all this. Never does it come to their mind that they are the doers.

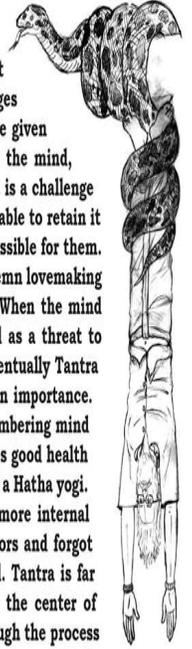
Most of us think we are the doers, so we start reasoning out the good and bad, right and wrong, perfect and imperfect. In that process, we take credit for good things and feel guilty for the negative ones. But in the world of Tantra, we never take credit for anything nor do we go into the system of evaluation or judgments. We always see the Lord in all acts and nothing looks odd or ugly. To us the Lord is always beautiful and his acts are beyond questioning. Though we do give some explanations when asked, we always know and feel that the answer has got nothing to do with us and that the Lord answered at the spur of the moment. When you live a life moment to moment there is absolutely no planning, no scheming, no goals, no ambitions. We just live. And that is the Lord's grace.

It's always beautiful to keep wondering at the ways of the Lord and reasoning spoils wonder, but we can understand that the Lord only has made us to wonder and reason out at times. He has been very kind to us to see that reasoning doesn't spoil the wonder. Through Tantra, the Lord is teaching us the balance between the art of wonder and the art of reasoning. We really love him for what he keeps doing for all of us. Let us totally surrender to Him.

Anything that can be taught has an organised platform which is more mechanical by nature. What cannot be taught doesn't have an organised structure and is more organic by nature. How to teach seeing to a person? How to teach hearing to a person? How to teach feeling to a person...so how to teach Tantra? Tantra is inborn...



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Tantra is wonderful, it is been grossly misunderstood these days. It is distorted and its meaning and essence grossly mistrusted. Over ages you have been tutored by many to go on ego trips. Never was any one given an exercise to progressively get out of this ego. The ego fantasises the mind, Tantra is against this ego. Tantra is pure love; when love is at peak, it is a challenge to the mind. It reaches a stage of no mind. The Rishis and sages were able to retain it permanently and it resulted in eternal joy. Tantra made eternal joy possible for them. Over the ages it was a deliberate act on the part of many of us to condemn lovemaking and it was projected as a sin. The real reason is it will be anti-ego. When the mind is filled with love there will be no place for ego and this was feared as a threat to materially progressive society. So lovemaking was condemned and eventually Tantra was condemned because its roots lay in love. Instead, Yoga was given importance. That too, not the Yogas which really wake up an unconscious and slumbering mind to reality but rather Hatha yoga was given importance, because it gives good health and longevity. Further, some could also demonstrate their ego of being a Hatha yogi. In fact Yoga and ego are opposites. What Patanjali insisted on was more internal through external means. Unfortunately, people tuned up their exteriors and forgot the interior. Tantra approached ego with love and ego got dissipated. Tantra is far beyond the normal acts of recreation and procreation, it goes into the center of existence of one's self and results in realisation of one's true self through the process of pure love. Tantra is the ultimate orgasmic experience of truth and dance with the Lord: Satchitananda!

In fact, there is absolutely no problem, even if Tantra is misunderstood or if a Tantric is considered as a cheap trickster. Just because people have a different notion, we can't let the cat out of the bag. Because, it is a jungle cat and not an ordinary one. Further, a Tantric doesn't need to defend himself, he is just what he is. If he is understood, fine; if not, still fine. There is nothing to prove. Tantra is the core of existence, it is the epicentre. One should be courageous enough to go down into the fuming volcano, right across the boiling lava and get immersed with it. I don't see that kind of calibre anywhere.

When you don't have the eligibility, why do you aspire to know Tantra or what we do?
Curiosity + Greed = Self Destruction.



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* PRAYOGI PARAYANAM *

Don't experiment with Tantra, unless you have a master to guide you step by step. It is certainly not in the books, be cautious!

It was my good fortune to have been enlightened by a number of such great sages such as Sri Aramudhan, Sri Narayana Namboodri, Maharshi Rajar, Didi Chandini, Master Su Yen, Master Lei Peng, Dr. Abdul Usman Latif and others. Each of my gurus was distinguished, original and unique in his/her own way. None of them knew imitation.

They taught me many things and I tried to adapt their teachings to my own path to suit my own style of functioning. I used to introspect often just to find out if I was copying any one of them blindly. Due to the grace of God and my Gurus, I did not find anything like imitation, which you know, erodes originality. There is no use in trying to become another Krishna or Christ. You have come here to be yourself and not someone else. Let us remember that.

In fact, it was not my intention to become anything in particular - such as a Sufi saint, Tao monk or Lama. All I wanted was to go and wander in far off places of natural scenic beauty. I did not have resources to cover expenses for my extensive tours. During my college days, I used to write to my father for money on some or the other pretext like, "to pay the fine for replacement of lab equipment broken due to my mistake." Needless to add that these were excuses invented to get hold of some money from my parents. Gradually, I gave up these tricks and opted for straight-forward means. I used to drive auto-rickshaws, wash clothes or utensils in some houses, fetch vegetables, milk or grocery or serve as a compounder with a Doctor to earn money. Sometimes, I worked as a Coolie at the Railway Station and also at a FCI warehouse. Then, I realised how difficult it was to earn money and could appreciate its value better.



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I do not claim that my character was all spick and span. In fact, my relatives considered me a vagabond and a spendthrift. Slowly but steadily, I could come out of all such shady acts and met my expenses with money earned by hard labour. Whether it was cutting wood, cooking food or selling groundnuts in local trains, I enjoyed the work thoroughly for it was a means to a good end.

Sometimes, during such stints, I used to run into known faces or acquaintances. They used to question me why I was doing such odd jobs. I used to smile at them and quietly withdraw from there. They could never understand why I was doing all this.

Whenever, I had an occasion to do some service to old people, I used to politely accept money from them but only when offered. In retrospect, I feel that it was one of the good things I did in those days. I was not a loser in the bargain, of course. Some people, who had taken a liking to me for some reason or other, used to offer much more than that was due to me for the work done, as much as Rs.500 or even Rs.1000. I used to accept it and use it for my tour expenses thinking it to be a God sent bonanza.

When I had some money left with me, I used to buy textbooks or stationery for poor students or feed some poor people, thanks to the inspiration I received from my parents and Gurus.

My parents gave me a lot of opportunity to learn many things in my life. I consider them to be thoughtful sages to have brought me into this world for service to mankind. They were the silent Gurus behind me, without whom I would not be what I am today.

As I admitted earlier, I was not without some negative traits in my character. But due to God's grace, I could gradually overcome them and change for the better.

Later, I turned into an idealist. I was budding and burning with idealistic fervor in my thoughts and deeds, till I was slowly weaned away towards totality. Once I realised that totality, but not perfection is life, I could come out of all my misconceptions and move towards divinity with immense confidence. The various stages of transformations in my life, can be associated with the unexpected encounters I had with sages who condescended to teach me various aspects of spirituality and guided me on the path towards totality.

I owe them much. It is a pleasant duty for me to remember them gratefully and offer my sincere obeisance to them.

