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Bellary Gurupujas

Discourse 1 by Master K.Parvathi Kumar (26th Sep, 2015)

My hearty fraternal greetings to the brotherhood who have gathered here to celebrate Master CVV Gurupujas in Bellary. For 25 years, WTT Bellary Centre has been conducting activities of prayers, rituals and service activities. Many families have been living together in a disciplined manner and as per the tradition given by our Rishis.

Self-study is one of the important principles to be followed as a member of WTT. Self-study is to know more about oneself and also gain knowledge from the Scriptures as to how to lead a better life. We may know many good things that one can follow but due to our weaknesses we fail many times to follow them regularly. So we need to constantly check oneself and keep practicing such that there is constant transformation in one's personality. Transformation of personality is one of the most foremost things that should happen in the initial stages of practice.

Our personality may be either dominated by Rajas (dynamism) or Tamas (inertia). As a result, personality itself becomes a hindrance to our growth into the path of light. We know that we should not think or speak in so and so manner but still keep doing that. It is because our personality does not allow us to control it. We lost control over it. As it becomes stronger than us, we remain stuck in it. We know that it is good to wake up early in the morning but personality does not allow it to happen sometimes or even every day.

Our elders in the past have shown us the path through demonstration, teachings and Scriptures as to how one can lead a life by controlling one's personality and make it splendid. If mundane personality becomes Divine personality, then our life becomes splendid. For that transformation to happen, we should keep checking the personality from time to time. Are we living as per the good things that we know? Are we into unnecessary activities? Are we fooling anyone to earn money? Are we speaking unnecessarily?

So these questions should be asked and answered by oneself on a regular basis. No one else can question or answer them for you. Otherwise there is no real progress in the path. Our behaviour should become better and better day by day. Only then self-study is said to be happening. Just reading many books cannot be called Self Study. If you read a Scripture, it gives certain instructions as to how one can lead a better life. We should make note of them and try to follow them.

We should first know the weaknesses that are present in our personality behaviour. Then we can make adjustments accordingly. There may be many beastly tendencies present in us which should be adjusted. A rat tries to steal things if no one is looking. Some might have such a tendency. A cat is highly self-centered and it doesn't care for anyone. Some may have such a tendency and they only think of themselves. They may even think that others should not have a good life. That is snake like tendency.

We are told a story. A man was doing penance. The reason for his penance was his brother was doing penance and he did not want his brother's penance to be fruitful. The Lord appeared before this person first and he asked for a boon "Whatever my brother's asks for, it should not happen." The Lord grants the boon and then this person asks "What is my brother doing penance for?" The Lord replies "He is doing penance that you should have a splendorous life." :) So in this manner people have such evil tendencies as well and they suffer due to such tendencies.

So one should study oneself and check for all such tendencies that may be present in one's personality. Then we should strive to come out of such unwanted tendencies. Otherwise such tendencies cause lot of trouble to you. They can give you an experience of hell. It is like your tamed dog not following your instructions.

If our personality is hyperactive or highly inertial, we get a feeling that the creation is not made properly by the Lord. If you remain in poise, then the whole world appears Divine to you. Otherwise you keep seeing the negative side of things. Great ones see only the light aspect in others and not anything else. Each being is an embodiment of light. The problem is with the layers that have formed around this light. They do not allow you to shine forth. So we should keep checking our thoughts, speech and actions. They should become better and better as each year progresses. That transformation is the test to whether you are progressing in the path or not. We may be doing many rituals, prayers, service, visiting many holy places but as long as the transformation is not happening, they are useless. We should keep worshipping the Lord that our personality should become Divine.

We have the story of Gajendra Moksha in Bhagavatam. Gajendra (elephant king) was caught by a crocodile because he did not behave properly. We too get stuck in many things because we do not behave properly. Generally personality is stronger than us and we succumb to it many times. A diabetic patient wants to eat sweets. It is because the disease is dominating him and it tries to increase its domination further by pushing the person into eating more sweets. We know that it is not good but still do it because of the domination of personality. So we cannot get out of this personality on our own.

That is where the requirement of a Guru comes. A Guru or Master is one who has a personality under his control and his personality is also divine and has poised nature. Only one with such a

personality can become a Master. He is in a state where he has control ever over his departure from the body. He is ever happy and tries to lead everyone to that blissful state. All the Grand Masters whose pictures we place on the altar are ones who have such a personality. They reach that state through their sincere practice. We worship them because they have a Divine personality and they work to help others to reach a similar state. They have the capability to work out the Divine plan.

So we have a chance to transform our personality into a Divine personality or otherwise we can degrade it further leading an undisciplined life. It is left to our choice.

In school days, we studied what different organs are present in our body, where they are and how they work? That is a study of anatomy. Similarly we need to study our personality and check for all animal tendencies that one might have. We take anything if it is given free of cost. Do we take it if something is offered to us along with a bill? Nothing comes free of cost in this world. Everything comes with a cost which you may not be able to see. So we should not have such a tendency to take anything just because it comes free of cost. There are many other such tendencies which should be checked.

In Gajendra Moksha, it is told Gajendra (an elephant) fought with the crocodile for 1000 Divine years but could not win. Then he starts worshipping the Lord. It is told so to indicate that the fight over personality can never be won even if you fight for a very long time. We need someone's help. Everyone cannot help. Only the one who has control over his personality can help.

In a circus, there used to be a lion and a rat. They used to be kept in different cages. The rat used to greet the lion everyday saying "How are your brother?" The lion used to be irritated because it used to feel much greater than the rat. It could not do anything because it is in a cage. One day the lion asks the rat "I am the king of all animals. You are very small compared to me. How can you call me brother?" The rat replies "We both are same because I am in a cage and you too are in a cage. You may be the king of animals but can you bring me out of this cage? You are already in a cage. So in this aspect, we are same."

So the person may be any status in this world, but as long as he is stuck in his personality, he is of the same status as others who are stuck in the personality. Only those who have control over one's personality can be considered higher and they are the ones who can help others transform one's personality. They are the ones who can lead us in the path.

The primary objective of doing Master CVV prayer is transformation of personality. That is what he promised if we do prayer in the morning and evening regularly. He will cause all the necessary adjustments in our personality.

So our thoughts, speech and actions should be transformed and they should remain in one line. Whatever you think, whatever you speak and whatever you do should be in alignment. They can never be disconnected with one another. We cannot say one thing and do something else. Do not speak lies just to please others. Speak the truth and speak it pleasantly. If it is not pleasant, speak not. Just to please others, you cannot speak untruth. Untruth causes a split in your personality.

Next important thing to be followed is non-violence. Do not hurt others through your words, speech or actions. Then you should have the habit of offering and not receiving. You should not receive just because someone is offering it to you free of cost. You can receive it only when you have offered something much greater to the other person. Otherwise it leads to transfer of his karma to you. You do not know what other's karma is. That is why we are advised to keep offering as much as possible. So that our karma is neutralized. Keep serving others in whatever way you can. It also results in karma neutralization. If you keep receiving, then karma accumulates which has to be cleared in future.

So for all this to happen, we need the support and inspiration of a true Master. We should sincerely follow the instructions given by him so that transformation happens. If you just move around a Master without doing any practice, it is useless. In group livings like this, we have different members who participate in doing different activities like stage decoration, cooking food, distributing food and so on. All such activities result in karma neutralization. So we know the form of karma and act accordingly.

So self-study is not just reading books. Books can be read to give us inspiration. But the self-study means to know thyself and transform thyself. Divine thoughts do not come to us naturally because the personality has grown in such a manner. If we sit freely, what kind of thoughts do we get? Do we get thoughts relating to divine? Or are we getting unwanted thoughts. The thoughts we get during free time determines the state of our personality. A devotee is one who remembers the Divine at all times and whenever he has nothing to do, he remains in complete Divine alignment.

If decades pass by and we remain in this path with no transformation happening, it means self-study is not happening. If we dig deep, we find many unwanted tendencies. We should submit them at the feet of the Master and request him to help us in making adjustments. As a Master does not take any money, we can submit all our weaknesses to him and ask him to repair. Master CVV promised that he would repair the body just like a vehicle is repaired by a mechanic. He would make many changes to it and transforms it in such a way that it will help you in fulfilling the purpose of your life.

Once the Divine personality is formed, Divine acts start happening through us. The Lord starts helping us in many ways through you. Your capabilities expand multifold. Your knowledge and awareness expand a lot. Divine will becomes your will. Then you get thoughts relating to the work only which has to happen through you. That is what Ganapati grants us. We do not get thoughts of things which will not happen. If a Grand Master wills something, it will happen because it is the Divine will itself that has manifested as his will. The will is not his.

Knowledge is also very important for action to happen in the right manner. If you know what to do but not how to do, it is useless. So a Divine personality is attributed with Divine will, Divine knowledge and Divine action.

So there are many Masters who are ready to help us only if we are prepared for the change. If you think that you are good and there is no change required, then no one can help you. We can be the best judge of oneself. Others cannot judge you exactly and you may not like it if others judge you. So we should recognize our short comings and submit them at the feet of the Master.

This tradition of Master-Disciple communion was present on earth for the most ancient times. You need to be oriented in the right manner to receive help from the Master. Self-study and worship of Master will result in transformation of one's personality. That is the summary of today's discourse.

The important thing required for self-study is aspiration and strive for transformation. Your practice cannot become a routine. The mind habituates to anything easily and makes to mechanical. It cannot be so. So aspiration, strive and devotion are very important for the transformation to happen. No transformation means no practice is happening. We should feel sad if you are in the path with no transformation happening.

So in this discourse, we recollect the purpose of our gathering in this manner every year. It is not just a social gathering where you come and I come and give some discourses and you hear and go. It should not be so. There should be expansion happening from time to time. That is purpose of participating in Gurupujas. So that is the message this evening.

We gather again tomorrow morning.

-Swasthi