

Transmitting the Culture of Spiritual Life to our Children

1) Therefore brahmacārī means living under direction of guru, guror hitam. And guror hitam... How he can be simply thinking of benefiting the spiritual master? Unless that position comes, nobody can serve guru. It is not an artificial thing. The brahmacārī, the disciple, must have genuine love for guru. Then he can be under his control. Otherwise why one should be under the control of another person?

Lecture Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 7.12.1 -- Bombay, April 12, 1976

Our Society is like one big family and our relationships should be based on love and trust.

Letter to: Upendra — Los Angeles 6 August, 1970

2) Prabhupāda: Yes. In our childhood, we saw every village, every town... system was—still there are, but practically closed now—that in the evening, in the village, everyone should assemble in a place to hear messages from Mahābhārata, Rāmāyaṇa... Not Vedānta philosophy was discussed.

Lecture Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 2.3.14-15 -- Los Angeles, May 31, 1972

Mahā-purāṇa. Mahā-purāṇa means the science of Kṛṣṇa is described in story form. This is called Purāṇa. People better understands in stories, in history.

lecture Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Madhya-līlā 20.121-124 -- New York, Nov 25, 1966

3) If the children associate with their elders in the regular schedule of devotional practices, that is best way to train.

Letter to: Satsvarupa — Mayapur 28 February, 1972

Kṛṣṇa has given everyone something extraordinary and to serve Kṛṣṇa with one's extraordinary talent means successful life.

Letter to: Sukadeva — Calcutta 17 4 March, 1973

Our leaders shall be careful not to kill the spirit of enthusiastic service, which is individual and spontaneous and voluntary. They should try always to generate some atmosphere of fresh challenge to the devotees, so that they will agree enthusiastically to rise and meet it. That is the art of management: to draw out spontaneous loving spirit of sacrificing some energy for Kṛṣṇa.

Letter to Karandhara, 22nd December, 1972

4) This knowledge is the king of education, the most secret of all secrets. It is the purest knowledge, and because it gives direct perception of the self by realization, it is the perfection of religion. It is everlasting, and **it is joyfully performed.**

Bhagavad-gītā 9.2

Lord Caitanya and Nityānanda introduced a process that is **simply joyful**

Songs by Vaiṣṇava Saints on the Glories of the Holy Name

Encourage them to chant as much japa as possible, but there is no question of force or punishment. If there is need you may shake your finger at them but never physical punishment is allowed. Try as far as possible to discipline them with love and affection, so that they develop a taste for austerity of life and think **it is great fun to serve Kṛṣṇa in many ways.**

Letter to Aniruddha, 10th January, 1972