

Knee - Mail

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Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev.

Nowadays almost everyone is accessible on email. What about God? He is available on a very special type of email, which is as old as the human race and which requires no internet. It is **knee-mail : mailing prayers from our heart to God while standing on our knees.**

Most people pray to God when they want something which is beyond their human ability to get. While praying, we often intuitively try to feel and express humility, knowing we depend on divine grace. To receive God's answers to our knee-mails, we need humility. Many people lose faith in God when their prayers are apparently unanswered; they feel that either God doesn't exist or that He can't fulfill their prayers - or doesn't care to. But are we not presuming that we know better than God what is best for us? This presumption is rooted in a fundamental philosophical misconception that we can enjoy life in this world and that the main purpose of God's existence is to provide and protect our material enjoyment. Of course we do need basic material resources for our existence. But as souls we are essentially spiritual and eternal; whereas everything in this world is material and temporary. Due to this inescapable incompatibility, nothing material can make us truly happy. We forget this basic fact, but thankfully God doesn't. One must not lose faith under any circumstances.

In the purport of Bhagavad Gita 2.41

*vyavasāyātmikā buddhir ekeha kuru-nandana
bahu-śākhā hy anantāś ca buddhayo 'vyavasāyinām*

Those who are on this path are resolute in purpose, and their aim is one. O beloved child of the Kurus, the intelligence of those who are irresolute is many-branched.

Srila Prabhupada states what "**Faith**" is:

"A strong faith in Krsna consciousness that one should be elevated to the highest perfection of life is called vyavasayatmika intelligence..Faith means unflinching trust in something sublime."

A mother sometimes withdraws or withholds toys from her child to ensure he doesn't neglect his studies and miss out on a bright career. Similarly God sometimes withdraws or withholds our cherished toys wealth, love, positions, possessions to ensure we don't neglect our spiritual growth and miss out on a bright spiritual career in the hereafter. God wants us to be happy in this world too, but not at the cost of our eternal happiness in the next world. A lost child feels so happy when at last he returns home. Then how much more happy will we the lost children of God - be when God takes us back to our eternal home? God is constantly planning and endeavoring to provide us this supreme happiness. All we need to do is cooperate with His plan by serving Him, come what may. Therefore when our prayers appear to be unanswered, we can pray to God for the wisdom to accept His plan and the determination to participate in that divine plan.

Srila Prabhupada would say that the best prayer - the one prayer that will never fail is the prayer asking for strength to serve God in every situation. When a child calls the name of his parent, a responsible parent immediately provides his real needs. Similarly when we chant the Holy Names

*Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare*

He will immediately provide our real need - the strength to serve Him. When we humbly chant and pray for this inner strength, we will find that Krishna will never disappoint us.

I humbly pray to our beloved Guru Maharaj to provide me the real need - the strength to serve Krishna.

Thank you very much.

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sri Ramachandra das

Abu Dhabi.