

## Helping helps us

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Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

Once the management of software company decided to teach its employees about the importance of team-spirit. So they invited one of the teams in their company to play a game in the banquet hall. The employees were quite surprised as they were called for playing game. As they entered the hall, they found the hall decorated beautifully with colourful decorative papers and balloons all over the place. It was more like a kid's play area, than a corporate meeting hall. Also, there was a huge box of balloons placed at the centre of the hall. The team leader asked everyone to pick a balloon from the box and asked them to blow it. Every one happily picked a balloon and blew it. Then the team leader asked them to write their names on their balloon, carefully so that the balloons didn't blow up. All tried to write their names on the balloons, but not everyone was successful. A few balloons blew up due to pressure and they were given another chance to use another balloon.

Those who failed to mark their names even after the second chance were ruled out of the game. After the second chance, 25 employees were qualified for the next level. All the balloons were collected and then put into a room. The team leader announced the employees to go to the room and pick the same balloon that had his name on it. Also, he told them that no balloon should blow up and warned them to be very careful! All 25 employees reached the room, where the balloons carrying their names were thrown here and there. They were searching for the respective balloons carrying their names. While they were in a rush to find the respective balloons, they tried not to burst the balloons. It was almost 15 minutes and no one was able to find the balloon carrying his own name. The team was told that the second level of the game was over.

Now it is the third and final level. They asked the employees to pick any balloon in the room and give it to the person named on the balloon. Within a couple of minutes all balloons reached the hands of the respective employee and everyone reached the hall. The team leader announced, "This is called real solutions to the problems. Everyone is frantically hunting for solutions to the problems without understanding the ideal ways. *Many times, sharing and helping others give you real solutions to all problems.*"

The moral of the above the story could be applied to our services in spiritual life as well. When we work as a team, in a united manner to serve the Supreme Lord then Guru and Krishna are very pleased. Service is not about showing our talents are expertise, but the sweetness of service is experienced when we perform it with single goal to please the Lord

and work as a team, helping out each other as we struggle in our path back home, back to Godhead. In Srimad Bhagavatam Canto 4, Chapter 30 we find that Lord Krishna is very pleased with united service of Pracetas and addresses them as follows. (SB - 4.30.8)

*shri bhagavaan uvaaca  
varam vrneedhvam bhadram vo / yuyam me nrpa-nandanaah  
sauhaardenaaprthag-dharmaas / tushto 'ham sauhrdena vah*

The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: "**My dear sons of the King, I am very much pleased by the friendly relationships among you. All of you are engaged in one occupation—devotional service. I am so pleased with your mutual friendship that I wish you all good fortune. Now you may ask a benediction of Me.**"

Srila Prabhupada very nicely mentions in the purport to above verse, "*The unity of the individual souls attempting to satisfy the Supreme Lord or rendering service to the Lord is real unity...Actually, in Krishna consciousness there cannot be two opinions. There is only one goal: to serve Krishna to one's best ability. If there is some disagreement over service, such disagreement is to be taken as spiritual. Those who are actually engaged in the service of the Supreme Personality of Godhead cannot be disunited in any circumstance. This makes the Supreme Personality of Godhead very happy and willing to award all kinds of benediction to His devotees, as indicated in this verse. We can see that the Lord is immediately prepared to award all benedictions to the sons of King Prachinabarhishat.*"

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much.

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.