



*Teachings by Gurumayi Chidvilasananda*

## Have Faith

*Satsang for the Siddha Yoga Sangham in India*

*Thursday, July 9, 2020*

*Bhagavan Nityananda Temple*

*The “Be in the Temple” satsang on Thursday, July 9, 2020 began most auspiciously with the recitation of Shri Guru Gita. Following the recitation Gurumayi gave these teachings:*

*Shri Guru Gita. Shri Guru Gita. Together, we all recited Shri Guru Gita.*

These days I don’t have to ask, “How are all of you doing?” —because the newspapers in every country are telling us what’s happening. It’s all over the media; we can read what’s going on. Everyone is unhappy. Everyone is in pain.

So how does one even go about asking how people are doing?

Still, I could ask, “How are you?” “Are you all doing okay?” But then what answer would I get? What *kind* of answer would I get? If you say, “Yes, we’re doing really well,” then I’d have to wonder, “What planet are you living on?”

Because of what is happening in the world these days, because of this disease, because of this pandemic, we are coming to know who is our own—which people are ours, and which ones have their own agenda.

I used to think that in times of difficulty, people would come together—that they would work together and share what they have. But in fact, I am seeing that people are selfish. People are self-serving.

If the whole world were to work together, what couldn't we accomplish?

God has entrusted us with this earth. But what is the relationship that *we* have forged with this earth? That is question-worthy. We have to ask: "What is our relationship to this earth? What is our connection to this earth?"

In America, we are observing that no one listens to anyone. Doctors are dying. Nurses are dying. So many people are giving up their lives for us. But people want to go to the seashore, they want to go to bars, they want to go shopping. They just want to have fun. When thousands of people are dying because of this pandemic, how does the thought of having fun even occur in people's minds? How?

When soldiers sacrifice their lives, at least they become martyrs. But what do we become by willfully risking our lives and dying from this disease?

Do we want to live in this world as *rogīs*, always suffering from ailment, or do we want to live as *yogis*? This is a vital question to ask. If we want to live like yogis, then surely we can put aside our short-lived fun for a few days. Think about where you stand on this matter.

How does one ask, "How are you doing?"

Recently, someone shared with me an observation. When people are alive, no one asks them, "How are you doing?" But when they die, *then* people start to ask, "How was he? How was she? What were they going through?"

So at this moment we find ourselves in a dilemma—because how *do* we ask people how they are doing?

If people were living like yogis, we could ask, "How many *asanas* did you do today? Did you meditate today? How was the chant? Did you speak to anyone with kindness, courtesy, and graciousness? And how are your parents doing?"

However, if people want to while their lives away having fun, then we cannot ask them how they are doing. What kind of answer would they give?

The world is in the throes of suffering because of this pandemic. The scriptures of India have spoken about sacrifice. Yes—at this time, there is a need for sacrifice! The need is not for fun. The need is for sacrifice. The need is for discipline. It is important that you speak happily with others, that you help one another, that you listen to the instructions of your country's leaders.

So many people are senselessly losing their lives—so many people! Why? I just do not understand it.

The doctors and nurses are taking care of even those who refuse to listen to anyone. How generous these doctors and nurses are! This is their greatness. Their hearts are very big.

Today, we recited *Shri Guru Gita* together. It was so beautiful. I could experience the happiness in your hearts. For this reason, I do not have to ask you how you are doing. Because I know.

You recited with faith, you recited with devotion, you recited with joy and with gratitude. That is why the recitation of *Shri Guru Gita* was so beautiful.

Remember: the beam of light that shines forth from these words is with you. And you can also give this light to others. When you extend your hands toward others, that beam of light in your heart streams out through your palms and reaches them. Make the intention that because of you, someone will smile; because of you, someone will laugh—they will laugh wholeheartedly.

When we recited *Shri Guru Gita*, we repeated the words *tasmai shrigurave namah, tasmai shrigurave namah, tasmai shrigurave namah*. “I offer my salutations to Shri Guru.”

Now we will sing this verse of *Shri Guru Gita*—verse 32. I will sing *gurur-brahma gurur-vishnur*, and simultaneously you will sing *tasmai shrigurave namah, tasmai shrigurave namah, tasmai shrigurave namah*.



Have faith. Have courage.

Cowardice—*no*.

Fear—*no*.

Love—*absolutely*.

Strength—*most definitely*.

Shame—*no*.

Self-confidence—*great*.

As Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji said to all of you: “Be self-reliant. Every person should become self-reliant.”

When I heard these words, I liked them very much. “Self-reliant” —*yes*.

Don’t look into how happy someone else can make you. Instead, think: “Can *I* make this person happy?” Because you cannot rely on what others will do; they will think anything, and they will do anything. That is what I am seeing during this pandemic.

People are saying, “I don’t want to do what the government is telling me!” Listen, my dear ones. Isn’t the government telling you to do this for your own good? For the sake of saving your life? What the experts are saying is for the benefit and welfare of all of us. This is not the time to display arrogance. Worship the *Guru*—yes, yes! But there is no room for *gurūr*—arrogance. What is the need for so much arrogance? What is the need for all this pride? At a time like this, we must think of everyone. We must keep everyone’s well-being in mind and do good and beneficial deeds.

Self-reliance.

In America, people talk about “fake news, fake news, fake news” or “alternate news, alternate news, alternate news.” They are calling even the *news* fake! They are calling it “alternate.” Isn’t this in itself so fake? Isn’t this in itself a farce? People are making a mockery of others. They themselves want to have unbridled fun, and so they undermine everyone else by making fun of them.

Is this the time for having fun and making fun of others? No. No. No.

So much conflicting information about the pandemic is going around. Some people are saying, “We can do this,” and others are saying “We cannot do this.” Some are saying, “This can happen,” and others are saying, “This *cannot* happen.”

On the Siddha Yoga path, one thing you know you can do, without a doubt, is have faith. Most definitely, you can have strong faith and you can allow it to grow even stronger. You don’t have to worry about whether faith is right or wrong, good or bad. In this moment, faith is exactly what is needed. If you have faith, then all will be well, all will be auspicious. Yes, it will.

Have faith. Have courage. Speak to everyone with love. See who needs help. And take very good care of yourself, so that the next time I ask, “How are you?” you can tell me, contentedly, that everything is going well. That will give me great joy.

Speaking of great joy—reciting *Shri Guru Gita* with all of you today brought me much happiness. In the presence of Bhagavan Nityananda, in his Temple, right before we began the recitation of *Shri Guru Gita*, we made an intention. It is my prayer to God that everyone’s intention be fulfilled.

What gift do you want from God?

What *kind* of gift do you want from God?

What do you ask of God?

Think carefully before asking—because on the Siddha Yoga path, we believe that at some time or another, we must have formed an intention for whatever comes to pass in our lives. That intention comes to fruition, and then no matter how much we curse our destiny—no matter how much we blame our kismet, no matter how much we cry—we will not find anyone to console us. This is why when you ask God for something, you should think carefully before asking, and understand what it is you are asking for.

In reciting *Shri Guru Gita* with all of you, I feel that we have taken a bath in the river Ganges. Absolute purity—this is what I am experiencing. I am experiencing *shuddhatā*, purity.

We will now say goodbye in the Siddha Yoga Universal Hall.

However, I want you to remember:

Have courage. Be happy.

Have courage. Be happy.

Have courage. Be happy.

God has given you so much.

God has given you so much.

Every day, say this to God: "You have given me so much. You have given me everything. Please continue to bestow your love upon me, and may I always place my love at your feet."

Treat everyone in this world with kindness, courtesy, and good manners.

Think well.

Live well.

Do well unto others and the world.

Always think, "I want to live in the shelter of my Shri Guru's grace."

My wish for you is this:

May your intellect always move in the direction  
of that which is favorable and auspicious.

May it forever remain on the right track.

