

PODCAST 106: FACTS

Om Sri Sai Ram.

Prasanthi Sandesh 106th episode welcomes you. Thank you very much for listening to our podcast talks. I wish that you should evince the same keen interest in future also. Let us discuss certain facts because we don't recognize facts and we take them for granted. It's not always true. It's absolutely necessary to remind ourselves of these bare facts. Some of them I would like to place before you.

Pleasure is momentary. All of us know that, yet we forget. Yet we are carried away by that momentary pleasure, while at the same time bliss is eternal, immortal. But unfortunately, we choose pleasure instead. So it is said that to live in pleasure is a waste of life. Should we waste our life because of these momentary pleasures? We should covet that which will never leave us. Even death cannot snatch it away. That is the bliss.

The question may come, what is the use of it? How am I to know? If you enjoy the bliss, you'll get out of mob psychology. You will not join the crowds. No! You will have your own individual thinking. You will not be foolish once again. And your yearning for that eternal bliss will be increasing day by day. This is a bare fact that we should cognize in the beginning.

And supposing I did something in the past and I realized it. And I do something now, keeping the past in my background. This in a way is a reaction from the past, and reaction from the past is not freedom. No! On your own, you will never be free. You have got to understand this fact.

Sometimes some people feel, "I follow my path, I have been doing this. I will not deviate from that. I am accustomed to that. I am tuned to that." They go on defending, pleading their own path or their own practice. Thus we can take it that they are imprisoned in their ego. If you hold on, if you cling on, that is an expression of your ego. And of all the imprisonments, getting imprisoned in one's own ego is worst of all. And so it cannot be independence and it cannot be freedom. No, because you have got imprisoned. How can you be free? This is another fact of life.

So sometimes Bhagavan calls us or rather gives us a new name. He used to call one boy this way, "Gopal! Gopal!" His name is not Gopal. He hails from a royal family. He is our former student. He calls him 'Gopal'. Not only that, Swami gives different names altogether. This He did in Shirdi. Shirdi Bhagavan is known for giving names like that, which are not our original names.

How should we take it? It is the beginning of the involvement of our Master in our life. Till then we have been treated as a guest, as an outsider. As we go closer and closer, He gives you a new name which means it is the beginning of His involvement. And Bhagavan wants to contact our deepest core. "He is involved in me." That satisfaction you have.

Well doesn't matter, sometimes to make fun of you He also uses names. I know Swami calling a very short boy, "Eh! Three mangoes! Come here!" Three mangoes is not his name. And He used to call another boy who is very tall, "Arrey! Coconut! Come here!" Then all people laugh.

In other words, it is a psychological penetration. He goes deeper and deeper into your mind. It has a message that can transform all your whole life. Here three mangoes means you are a short fellow as we understand, as we see that boy. It means you cannot be conditioned, you cannot be narrow-minded; come out of that," may be the implied message. When He calls another boy, "Arrey Coconut," it means by just any severe wind coconut trees fall. So, don't fall like that by the challenges of life. That may be an implied message. Therefore there is a message that can transform your whole life.

And as we come closer and closer to Bhagavan, it is the beginning of a great journey, a spiritual journey. And a seed is sown so let us cooperate. It grows into a tree and blossoms in full. And then we'll understand how we are enriched by our closeness to Swami. In other words, this kind of influence must become your lifestyle. Influence of Swami should become our lifestyle because it cannot be limited to a day or *bhajan* time. No!

And then another fact is also this: Swami gives dreams to many people, blesses them with dreams, and many people are proud of that. Many people don't get dreams also. Some get dreams. Why? Because you have got full faith in a dream and the dream attracts you. And you love and so forth, so He blesses you with a dream.

And some person may have some spiritual powers because he wants to have or possess the spiritual powers to demonstrate and publicize. Ok! He gives them. And then in some cases their kundalini is awakened. They will find their inner light. Yes!

So, all these are the ways and techniques of Bhagavan to make you move. To make you move because you are stagnating in your life. You should move. And for that movement you need to be motivated. Blessing with a dream or spiritual powers, awakening your kundalini or whatever, it is only to motivate you so that you may move.

Movement is very necessary. Movement is vital. Movement is dynamic. And it is the real thing, it is the real thing. The movement does not mean it is a goal. No! Movement is not a goal. It is journey, just a journey. Just a journey and the very journey itself is very good, very beautiful. Because journey towards the goal is very, very beautiful as we know.

Therefore, movement has to be motivated by Bhagavan Himself as our Divine Master. Very soon we realize that we don't need to go anywhere. You will be delighted. You will be ecstatic wherever you are. Every movement is an experience of the eternal. That is timeless, immeasurable Divinity. And in the process, all resistances will disappear. There will be no more of resistance because you are in a blissful state.

There begins an opening of a new door to our life. That is the door of truth. The door of truth is another fact of life that I thought of bringing to your attention. Sometimes we also feel that what Swami says is more important than what our mind prompts. No! Swami's word, Swami's command, Swami's teaching is more and more important to follow, not your mind and thought process. If we encounter a conflict between Swami's command and your own thought, we have to say 'no' to our mind and follow the Master. It has to be done in any case.

So, as humans we may be sometimes open to Swami, or sometimes we are closed, but again open. We may be open to Swami. Surprisingly we may close and again come back to open our hearts. It gives us lot of worries. Why is it happening? No sir, let us take it in a very common way. It is not a sensitive issue at all. Just as you take day and night, you take this in a natural way, so then you will not be worried. This is another fact.

Let me move on to another fact. Never decide when you are in a negative phase. When our desires are not fulfilled, we don't feel like visiting Prasanthi Nilayam. When Swami doesn't give us *padanamaskar*, we turn negative. When we don't get interviews, yes, we turn to negativity. Yes, in that state of negativity never decide anything, please! Because it is a negative phase you are going through. If you act, there will be a moment when you need to repent for having taken action in a negative mood. It implies that we have to decide when we are in a positive mood. That is very important.

Let us decide in a happy mood. Yes, we need to be happy. And we have to understand and wait. Then we can be very successful in life. And then in this very waiting and understanding, love will move and will help you to understand better and better.

And it is also most gratifying to know that Swami accepts both of our feelings. Sometimes we have all love for Swami when all our desires are fulfilled. Sometimes we are very angry with Him because of non-fulfilment of desires, or Swami is giving importance to another fellow whom I do not like. Swami is favoring those people whom I do not like. But whether your feelings be based on love or anger, Swami simply accepts whatever it may be. And actually, love is mixed with all ugly things, ugly things.

Sometimes we hate Him, sometimes we love Him. Why? Because we have all problems, and they express themselves in these two ways - love and hate. So, let us accept the bundle of problems and keep it to our own self, and do not express them in the spiritual field.

Sometimes we are dejected when promotions are delayed. And sometimes when our bosses are not favorable, we are completely upset, completely bitter. Then what happens? We carry this bitterness and project it onto the Divine Master. That's why people say, "I had a beautiful *darshan* today." Can there be a beautiful *darshan* and an ugly *darshan*? No! It is only your projection. When you are beautiful, when you are blissful, the *darshan* is blissful.

So let us not project our own bitterness onto the Master under any circumstances. We throw all our things on Him, good and bad. No! And then moreover a great experience will make you move into heights, a great experience. Otherwise it might even make you fall into valleys of negativity.

We know many people who are very much favored, very much encouraged, exposed, and made popular. Well, they move to heights. The day when they are losing their chances, the day when Bhagavan started testing them, they fall into the valley of negativity. So, it's a natural thing. Yes!

So sometimes we may be condemned. All right. Why we should think that we will all be appreciated? No! And then, it is also very beautiful that we feel like coming back to Swami though we are completely depressed in a negative mood. By the time you come back, all will pass out, all will pass. Now you are normal. So, by the time we come back here, the feeling of love for Swami will come again.

In another words, after all, life is a wheel that goes on moving, sometimes close, sometimes away. So, it implies that at one time or other, we have got to drop the whole mind because good and bad, disturbance or bitterness, that's all the mind game. We have got to give up this mind game completely.

And when once we are back to Swami, when we see Him, we are enchanted by His presence and we forget all our personality. We never think of our faults. We'll never think of our limitations. We think of Him, not our faults. What a beautiful thing it is! It only means you are thrown back into your self. He will see you as you are. You begin to see yourself as you are.

So drop all your moves. Drop all your moves, all those that disturb you. Yes! Between me and my Swami, there is neither love nor hate linked with my desire, ambitions and aspirations. No! And I have gone beyond the love and hate. Love not simply because there is a favorable time, and hate because of bitterness. No! I am above. That way I can come closer and closer to Swami. Then I will be in a mood of surrender.

What are you to surrender? What are you to surrender? Negativity. Have that sweet positivity in you. Negative bitterness should be thrown out, should be given up. So, don't choose that or this. Because when once you say good, there is also bad in it. When once you say bad, there is also good. It is not a question of choice. It is a question of one package. One follows the other. If you choose the one, well, the other will take its own vengeance. So, don't choose both. Then, they both disappear. This is the only way to make both of them disappear.

We have to come to Swami with love and constantly remembering that example of a wheel - nothing will remain. Everything will pass. Let us hate, anger. No! There should not be any hate or anger in you. There should be awareness. And this awareness should come out of love. And this love is non-dual. If you just bring down the level of the love, the hate also will follow, as I said earlier. It's not like that. When

we come to Swami with love, the wheel turns. It is awareness that is love. So this is possible when we give up both love and hate.

Next fact is this. In His presence with no expectations, no desire, we'll see great beauty in it. Yes! That is the real initiation. For that we need to be patient. You should be like a river, love that flows like a river. It should never stagnate because stagnation is death.

Love advances, love dances. But if it is not allowed to move, what happens? It gets frozen and it is dead. Where is the love? Love is in loving. Yes! And here we should know that love is a noun and not a verb. Otherwise you take love for granted.

With a Master, love always flows. Then there is no compromise. It's not an agreement and that love is not legal. No! It's open. One never knows what is going to happen. Then life is an adventure. This is what youth is! You can be youthful forever and ever for your whole life in this process of movement.

Sai Ram.

We will meet later.