

## PODCAST 99: "WHAT WE NEED?"

Om Sri Sai Ram

Welcome to Prashanti Sandesh.

***What is it that we really need today?*** That is the question. Most often we are carried away by our beliefs. Beliefs are social, based on the tradition. A belief of today may not be valid tomorrow. Beliefs of one time are outdated today.

At one time it was thought that when you come across a black cat, when you come out of your house for first time, it is inauspicious. When you come across a widow when you step out of your house, it is a bad omen. Like that people consider these beliefs.

There are some who are afraid of chameleon. They consider it very inauspicious. There are those who are particular about certain numbers: "Number thirteen is not good for me." Some say that, "I am not for black color, I don't like it." Like this we have got personal beliefs, social beliefs that are changing from time to time.

As we get sophisticated, more and more scientific, beliefs go on changing. The older ones may be replaced by new beliefs. I do not know. But beliefs go on changing. Do we need them? Should we go by a belief which may not stay for long, which is not constant?

In fact, belief is a false coin. It looks to be real though it is not real. But unfortunately, many are caught in these beliefs. But on the other hand, there's another very, very beautiful word that we should know is Trust. Trust is different from belief. Let's not consider that belief and trust are one and the same, and that they are synonyms. No! If they are one and the same, why should there be two words? Because they are two words, apparently they must be different.

But trust is of a different nature. It is risky, no doubt. Sometimes trust is dangerous. And that this trust makes you vulnerable to those who can do you harm. By reposing trust in somebody, we may be cheated. We may be the losers at times. So, trust is risky. And you cannot defend your trust. No! By trusting some people, there is every possibility of being exploited or cheated. But yet, trust is higher, more valuable than belief. So, belief and trust are not one and the same.

In this competitive world where one doesn't mind to destroy anybody or sacrifice anyone for his own selfishness, for his personal gains, well there is no love, there is no compassion in such a life. However, be sure that it will end up in a failure. So, a competition will not make you always successful, a winner. No! Here I must bring to your notice that trust is against this competitive world. No! Competitive world may go in one way, but yet your trust is your own.

And very interesting thing is when this trust meets love, a most precious thing in life, the by-product is surrender. To whom should we surrender? We should surrender to our Divine Master. So, when love and trust meet, they give birth to surrender.

And now there are differences on different grounds in respect to the beliefs, just as there are different sizes, shapes and colors. A belief is given to your choice. Belief is just an idea, whereas trust is in a presence. Trust is not an idea. It is in a presence. Belief is just theoretical. You may explain, you may give your own explanation at length. But trust is existential. Theory is different from being existential. Existential is closer to your reality.

As I said in the beginning, beliefs may change at any time just as we change our clothes, because a belief is based on the mind. Yes. I have a belief today but I may be attracted by another system and change my belief because that seems to be more logical and more convincing. And hence, beliefs often change. A belief has no roots at all in our heart. However attractive a flower may be, a plastic flower can never be a true flower, a natural flower. Belief is just like that. Belief is just like that.

Therefore, but trust is different. Just as a true flower, a natural flower, trust is like that type. Because trust finds its roots in our heart, in our being, and it's impossible to change our trust. The roots go deep into our heart and they grow.

It is the trust that is never static; it is dynamic. Trust is dynamic, whereas belief is a dead thing, as I gave an example of the plastic flower. Therefore, it may be ideological or philosophical. Beliefs are sometimes old, sometimes recent. A belief based on ideology and philosophy may make you a scholar, a theologian, a theologian or you may be a philosopher. You may get degrees, but your interior does not change by these beliefs.

You don't find a new man emerging out of a belief because you have no experience at all. But trust is based in our heart. Heart is the foundation for the trust. And trust is not that changeable as is the belief. It is impossible to change the trust. As indicated, it is quite dynamic. And then belief has no weight; there is no force also. But trust, though new, has a force of its own. Trust has got a force, while belief has no such force at all. So, trust is just a reality.

And then the belief system is such sometimes that it perverts our life. Therefore, let us have a clear-cut idea of what trust is and what a belief is. In fact, sometimes out of disgust, we may feel like saying a good bye to the belief system. Let's throw out the entire belief system. And then what happens? That energy moves into the trust which is of greater value, higher value. Trust grows, yes, in a relaxed way. And then it is based on your reality. You need not be under tension. Trust is never a burden, but belief is not like that. You will be under great tension, and every belief is a burden to you and to the society by and large.

Therefore, let's not die as a scholar; let's not die as seekers either. Let us not be lost in the jungle of theories. No! Because we find many scholars, giving different interpretations on our scriptures. Wonderful! Very nice to hear. But where is the experience? Where is the experience?

Therefore, let us not be lost in this confusion. Let us cry to enter within ourselves. Let me go in; let me make self-enquiry. That's really a very rare opportunity in life. And then you may give it whatever name you may call, depending upon your own faith.

But that you believe in, any name that you may give or a tribute means universal consciousness. Names may be different though, but it means universal consciousness.

Therefore, trust in life is a pilgrimage. Trust is nourishment. Therefore, out of these two, belief and trust, trust is of higher value. It's quite noble. And so, in this respect, trust is essential in the spiritual field. I trust in God. Yes! You cannot take out that trust.

Well, the trust does not get into the area of competition. "Your trust is greater than my trust. Your trust is not true. My trust is very much true." There is nothing like that. Trust is trust. That's all. No competition. It's not a running race. It's not a claim. It is not changeable like our dress. God wants us to be full of trust. The more we have trust in Him, more safety, more successful we'll be.

Because of the lack of trust, our life is in a state of confusion. And we are more confused when we think that belief and trust are one and the same. No! Or rather I would put it, you may begin as a believer with a belief, but you evolve into trust. Let the belief evolve into trust, a higher level. There is nothing beyond the trust.

Therefore, the trust is to be treasured. Let us be trustworthy so that God feels proud of our trust, unshakeable trust, whatever it may be. People are ready to die rather than to lose their trust. They are ready to sacrifice. They are ready to risk their life. Yes! Take for example, Socrates, or take for example Mansur. Take for example Lord Jesus Christ. They are ready for everything, come what may - persecution, execution or crucifixion. Come what may, they are not ready to lose their trust.

We find outstanding devotees in every religion. They too have faced bumps and jumps in life, ups and downs in life. But they have not lost their trust. Why? Because trust is not linked with any desire. Trust is totally spiritual, which is not a bargain. It is not a compromise.

Therefore, my appeal to our brethren is to grow in trust, and evolve from the state of belief to the trust.

May God bless you.

Thank you.

We'll meet again.