

**Sai Pearls of Wisdom,
Part 36-A**

PLEASANT SURPRISE - LADDU!!

Oct. 10th, 2022

**Om Sri Sai Ram
Prasanthi Sandesh**

Om Sri Sai Ram

Welcome to Prasanthi Sandesh, Sai Pearls of Wisdom.

In this series, we have been sharing with you, the experiences and the miracles of Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. Many, many of the participants of these podcast talks have been eagerly waiting for the next publication. In other words, how interested our devotees are in these miracles and experiences!

Today, let me share with you some more experiences. As you know, in *Bhagavad Gita*, Bhagavan Krishna tells Arjuna, "The word 'Sat' is used in the sense of reality and of goodness. And also, O Partha! The word 'Sat' is used in the sense of an auspicious act. The word 'Sat' denotes *Sadbhava*, *Sadhuhbava*, means goodness. In the same way, 'Sat' also denotes good work."

Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba enhances virtue and goodness in all people. He inspires individuals to become better human beings. Swami constantly showers His Grace on His students and helps them to transform themselves. He has established educational institutions to fulfil this purpose. These institutes impart quality education which is based on human values, whereby a lot of importance is given to morality and pure character.

Well, in this context, I would like to draw your attention to 2 incidents which reveal how children who have gone astray should be reformed and how goodness should be nurtured in good - natured children.

The first one, from 'The Summer Showers' course held in Brindavan 1973, around 800 students attended that course; and many of them do not know about Bhagavan and the strict discipline that has to be followed by them. About 800, many of them do not know what to do! But however, two students found it, the discipline torturous!

So one evening, they went out of the *ashram*. They had non-vegetarian food and smoked cigarettes. They also went, they also went for a movie and came back stealthily

at night. They thought nobody would know about their escapade. But what can remain hidden from the Omniscient Swami?

Next morning, He called them and asked about the previous evening. At first, they denied everything. But when Swami materialized a photo in which they were seen smoking, they were speechless and started weeping in repentance. The ever-affectionate Swami forgave them so that they could be encouraged now to cultivate good qualities.

The second incident is from the Boys' Hostel. One night Swami visited the hostel. Suddenly the electricity went off and a student heard Swami's voice telling him, "Put your hands behind! Put your hands behind!" As he did that, Swami placed a *laddu* in his hands. Within minutes, the power supply was resumed and all the students realized that each one of them had a *laddu* in his hand. Whatever was experienced by one had been experienced by all! So each one had heard Swami's voice and each one had a *laddu* in his hand. Everyone was ecstatic!

Why did Swami perform this *leela*? No doubt He wanted to make students happy. But beyond that, the prime motivation was to enhance devotion, good qualities and values in each of them.

As we know God incarnates in order to increase and sustain virtue and righteousness in people. Whenever the life of a virtuous person is beset with difficulties, Swami provides the strength to cope with these difficulties and removes the obstacles that hamper one's progress.

Once, the daughter of Sri Radhakrishna Chetty, an old-time devotee of Swami from Kuppam, Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh - Smt Vijayakumari, the daughter of Radhakrishna Chetty and her husband, Sri. Hemchand had gone for Swami's *darshan*. Swami came up to them and said, "Kumaramma! - meaning Vijayakumari - Kumaramma! You have been promoted!"

When she replied in the affirmative, saying, "Oh, yes!" Swami further said, "You did not ask in which area of life you are promoted; Shani Deva has entered your birth chart - Shani, Saturn!"

Unperturbed Smt. Vijayakumari, the Kumaramma replied, "Oh! That's very good, Swami! Why be afraid when we have God standing behind us like a mighty mountain!" Thereafter, the couple had to pass through a very difficult phase in their life. They suffered a financial crisis. Although they had means of livelihood, no income was available. They were both under tremendous psychological stress. But their faith in Saieshwara was unchanged. It grew deeper and stronger.

Once, Swami asked her, "You need some money, isn't it? Shall I give you some now?" and Vijayakumari replied, "Swami! You alone are feeding us. Don't give us money! No, please, Swami! But indirectly please help us to earn it, to earn it."

This earnest plea with total surrender reached Bhagavan. Swami penned them a letter. In it Swami wrote, “Your prayer from the sorrowful heart has reached Me. It has won My heart! Now I am bound to you. Don’t be sad! In the near future, you will be happy. Very soon, you will sing and dance on the waves of *ananda!*”

With Swami’s blessings, their sufferings and misfortune finally came to an end. They recovered financially and happiness dawned on them. The family was able to overcome this difficult period only due to Swami’s support; and now they are spending their old age happily, contemplating on Swami.

This is how Swami always stands by those who are good and saintly. Sai, the Indweller in every heart, is aware of everything, not only in every individual mind, but also of all the external happenings in the world.

7th Chapter, 26th *sloka* of *Bhagavad Gita* – “I know, O Arjuna!, the beings of the past and present and the future, but no one knows Me!”

On many occasions devotees have experienced how Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is aware of each detail in individual life.

Here are two incidents! In 1976, the very well known *sarod* player – SAROD – Ustad Amjad Ali Khan, Ustad Amjad Ali Khan was visiting Bangalore for a performance. After the program, he called on his friend Sri Rahim Nizamuddin, who was the Commissioner of Police at that time. Sri Rahim was planning a trip to Puttaparthi and Amjad Ali Khan decided to accompany him. They were fortunate to be selected for an interview. As they sat with others in the interview room, Swami materialized a hot *laddu* dripping with ghee; and turning to Amjad Ali Swami said, “It is made in pure ghee!”

Amjad Ali was astonished. He marvelled as to how Swami knew that he liked sweets prepared in pure ghee. But there was more to follow. Swami called him in the inner room. At that time, Amjad Ali was under a lot of mental stress.

In inner room, Swami told him, “Don’t worry! Marry the same Assamese girl you have chosen. She is suited to you!”

Amjad Ali was amazed and was grateful to Swami for removing the confusion in his mind. He thought this fact was known to him alone. But Swami knows everything! He was grateful because His command cum blessings from Swami cleared all his doubts about marrying that girl.

There is another story about Sri. Madhavrao Dixit in 1962. He was staying in Mangalore. He is the same Madhav who was fortunate to be blessed by Sri Shirdi Sainath! He along with his uncle, Sri Hari Sitaram Dixit – Hari Sitaram Dixit was in Shirdi from 1910 to 1918. He would call his uncle Kaka, Kaka! So all others including Shirdi Sai Baba started referring to Sri Hari Babu Dixit as Kaka.

Sainath was very fond of child Madhav at that time. One day while he was playing Sainath called him. He took out '*udi*' – '*vibuthi*' with His right hand from the '*dhuni*' and with His hand full of *vibuthi* slapped hard on Madhav's forehead. He hit it so hard that Madhav started crying; and ran to his uncle and saying, "I will never come to Baba!"

Kaka had seen it and he said smilingly, "Do you know how fortunate you are? We are all yearning to receive such a slap from Him!"

Why did Sai Baba do this? Madhav used to suffer from severe headaches. When Sainath slapped him, the headache vanished forever.

In 1962, Sri Madhav Rao Dixit heard that Sai has been reborn as Sri Sathya Sai and He is residing at Puttaparthi. But Madhav Dixit was not ready to accept Him as Sai Baba. So he decided to find out himself and travelled to Puttaparthi.

Swami called him for an interview. As soon as he entered, Swami said, "Take out my Kaka's photo! Take out my Kaka's photo! You have it in your pocket, isn't it?"

Swami also said, "After I slapped your forehead with *udi* – *vibuthi*, your headache has not recurred, isn't it?"

All of Madhav's doubts about Swami were cleared and he was convinced of Swami's omniscience.

That is Bhagavan Sri Sathya Sai Baba!

Thank you! Meet again!