

## Chapter Thirteen

### NATURE, THE ENJOYER, AND CONSCIOUSNESS

#### *Lesson 52: The Field of Activities and The Knower of the Field (13.1-7)*

1. Why is the living entity given a material body? Why is the body (sariram) described as a field of activity (ksetram)?
2. Explain the relationships between the body and the two knowers of the body.
3. List the twenty-four elements of the field of activities.

#### *Lesson 53: The Process and Object of Knowledge (13.8-19)*

1. Verses 13.8-12 describe the process to get out of the entanglement of this world. Of these, the most important is "constant and unalloyed devotion to Krsna." Explain Srila Prabhupada's statement that without this item the other nineteen have no value.
2. Pick one of the twenty items of 13.8-12 and discuss it in relation to your own development in bhakti-yoga.
3. Give one sentence explanations of four of the following five items: humility, approaching a spiritual master, sense control, absence of false ego, and detachment from family and home.
4. Krsna is the object of knowledge. Give some of His qualities that differentiate Him from you and me.

#### *Lesson 54: Prakrti, Purusa, and their Union (13.20-26)*

1. Explain 13.20.
2. Explain 13.21.
3. Explain 13.22.
4. What is the relationship of the Supersoul to the jiva wandering in this world?

*Lesson 55: The Vision of One in Knowledge*  
(13.27-35)

1. In 13.30 Lord Krsna says a man of knowledge sees that the self does nothing. Why then are we responsible for our happiness and distress (13.21)?
2. How is the vision of one in knowledge different from one who wants to exploit this world?
3. What is the basic message of this chapter?
4. In previous chapters Krsna clearly explained that He can only be understood by devotion. However, here He seems to be recommending jnana, the cultivation of knowledge. Explain the correct use of jnana (knowledge) in the development of our devotional life.

## Chapter Fourteen

### THE THREE MODES OF MATERIAL NATURE

#### *Lesson 56: The Conditioning of the Living Entity* (14.1-13)

1. Modern scientists believe that consciousness is a product of matter. Compare this to Lord Krsna's explanation (include the example of the scorpion laying its eggs).
2. Explain the conditioning of each of the three modes.
3. Give a brief analysis of your life on the basis of 14.5-13.

#### *Lesson 57: Transcending the Modes* (14.14-27)

1. Summarize the result of acting under each of the three modes (14.14-18).
2. What does "transcending the modes of nature" mean? How can one do this?
3. Why does acting in devotional service to Lord Krsna raise one above even Brahman realization?

## Chapter Fifteen

### THE YOGA OF THE SUPREME PERSON

#### *Lesson 58: Being Detached from the Reflection* (15.1-5)

1. What is being compared to the banyan tree? Explain the idea that this tree is a reflection of the real tree of the spiritual world. What is the cause of this tree?
2. Krsna says that we must cut down this tree with the weapon of detachment. How does surrender to the Supreme Personality of Godhead help one to achieve detachment.
3. How can detachment or knowledge help us to surrender to the Supreme Personality of Godhead?

#### *Lesson 59: Transmigration* (15.6-15)

1. Explain how the living entity is both one with and dependent on Krsna and at the same time separate from and independent of Krsna.
2. Explain the analogy of the air carrying aromas.
3. Explain how Krsna is both maintaining us in this world and providing us with the opportunity to come to Him.

#### *Lesson 60: The Three Kinds of Living Entities* (15.16-20)

1. Imagine a mayavadi scholar is arguing that after liberation we become one with God and lose our individuality. Use 15.16-17 to defeat him.
2. What is Krsna's definitive conclusion about the purpose of knowledge?
3. Discuss how devotional service is not only the goal of knowledge, but also the process to acquire knowledge.

## Chapter Sixteen

### THE DIVINE AND DEMONIAIC NATURES

#### *Lesson 61: Transcendental and Demoniatic Qualities* (16.1-15)

1. Briefly explain the three qualities necessary for sannyasis and the three meant for householders.
2. Choose one of the divine qualities that has meaning to you, and write a paragraph on it.
3. Choose one of the demoniatic qualities that has some meaning to you, and write a paragraph on it.

#### *Lesson 62: The Demoniatic Nature and Escape to the Supreme Destination* (16.16-24)

1. Explain Srila Prabhupada's comment, "A demoniatic person believes in the strength of his personal work, not in the law of karma." (16.16)
2. In 16.20 there is a discussion on Krsna's mercy to the demons. Explain how Krsna's placement of demoniatic persons into lower species of life is merciful (even for those whom He does not kill). Hint: What would they do if left in human bodies? Who, ultimately, is responsible for their degradation?
3. There are three gates to hell: lust (kama), anger (krodha) and greed (lobha). Pick one or more of these qualities and explain their dangers.
4. What is the basic distinguishing factor between the activities of the divine and of the demoniatic?

## Chapter Seventeen

### THE DIVISIONS OF FAITH

#### *Lesson 63: The Modes: Faith, Food, and Sacrifice* (17.1-13)

1. Srila Prabhupada comments in 17.2, "But this nature can be changed if one associates with a bona fide spiritual master and abides by his rules and the scriptures." Explain how this works.
2. Why are there different types of religions in the world?
3. Describe the three types of food.
4. Describe three types of sacrifice (yajna).

#### *Lesson 64: The Modes: Austerity and Charity. "Om Tat Sat"* (17.14-28)

1. Summarize the threefold austerity of the mode of goodness.
2. What is the meaning or purpose of "om tat sat?"
3. What is the fundamental principle that should guide us in all of our activities?

## Chapter Eighteen

### CONCLUSION - THE PERFECTION OF RENUNCIATION

#### *Lesson 65: Actions Free from Reaction* (18.1-18)

1. What is the danger of giving up ones prescribed duties or of not performing acts of sacrifice, charity or penance (yajna, dana, tapa)?
2. Describe the activities and consciousness of one who is actually renounced.
3. What does Krsna mean by, "...though he kills men in this world, (he) does not kill?" (18.17)

#### *Lesson 66: The Entanglement of the Three Modes* (18.19-40)

1. Briefly explain knowledge in the three modes.
2. Carefully read 18.23-28. What is the main characteristic of a man working in the mode of ignorance?
3. Briefly explain the three types of happiness.
4. Pick any item from this section that has some significance to you and write a paragraph on it.

#### *Lesson 67: Worshiping Through One's Occupational Work* (18.41-48)

1. Often it is said that the brahmanas are in the mode of goodness, the ksatriyas in passion, the vaisyas in passion and ignorance and sudras in the mode of ignorance. Using the description of the conditioning of the modes (18.19-40), discuss how these various conditionings lead naturally to the four qualities of work (18.41-44).
2. Lord Krsna says in 18.45, "By following his qualities of work, every man can become perfect." What is the essential ingredient in this process?
3. Why shouldn't work born of one's own nature be given up?

*Lesson 68: From Jnana to Working in Pure Devotion*  
(18.49-60)

1. 18.54 describes how one who is on the Brahman platform is eligible to begin pure devotional service to Krsna. But the description given of one on this Brahman platform is that he is fully joyful and never desires to have anything. Why then would such a self-satisfied person have a need or desire to begin devotional service?

2. Explain the analogies of the green bird entering the green tree and of the aquatics living in the ocean.

3. We are dependent upon so many arrangements; we expect certain things from our families, jobs, and country. We depend on nature to supply air, water, and food. What then does Lord Krsna mean by, "In all activities just depend upon Me." (18.57)

4. If we are not engaged in service to God, how must we be engaged?

*Lesson 69: The Most Confidential Knowledge*  
Become a Pure Devotee of Krsna  
(18.61-66)

1. How are we dependent on the Lord? In what sense are we independent (18.61-63)?

2. How can we become qualified to begin devotional service?

3. Write on one of the following topics:  
a. Surrender to Krsna is the culmination of all religious principles  
b. How to increase my surrender  
c. The meaning of surrender  
d. No need for other considerations: just surrender

*Lesson 70: Concluding Words*  
(18.67-78)

1. What does Krsna say about teaching and studying the *Bhagavad-gita*?

2. Analyze Arjuna's progression from 2.7 to 18.73 based on the three aspects of approaching a spiritual master mentioned in 4.34 (inquiry, submission, and service).

3. What is the mystery of the disciplic succession?

4. Why is the *Bhagavad-gita* the supreme instruction in morality?