

Brother Satyananda

"Becoming a Spiritual Leader by Creating Positive Dramatic Changes in Your Life"

The laws of the universe respond to our aspirations. You will feel a closer connection or a tangible response as you offer your petitions for aspiration to God.

Brother tells the of Krishna and the solar eclipse. Eclipse Pair—eclipse of sun and moon occurring in the same month (13 days apart). Royal families gathered at the place of 5 lakes at the Sumatapanchaka—the place of convergence of the lakes.

Brother tells the story of going out for a business meeting with Ma and Ananda Mata. Both dressed in plain street clothes. Ma was quiet and practical—normal and ordinary. She played her role. She received love and respect but the executives at the business meeting did not know who she was.

The great sages and saints are often not appreciated for their spirituality.

Why are saintly souls the best kept secrets? Brother reads from the Bhagavad Gita Ch. 3 Verse 26: an illuminated being should aspire to blend in and not disturb human kind. This verse is a scriptural injunction to blend in.

Brother also reads from Bhagavad Gita Ch. 3 Verse 25-35 which discusses dharma and righteous action and illustrates the example of avatars. How can we be inspired and instructed by the avatars?

We sit here today as a result of our spiritual desire. Avatars pass through the world largely unnoticed and unappreciated by their families. Most don't have to have auspicious displays of their divinity. Great sages are not known during their lives because they live normal lives. Ma just blended in. She was there to serve, not for ego. The idea is to live and act normal. Blend in and humbly serve.

We all have many roles and relationships. They are always varying and shifting. Great avatars live this way too. Their dynamics are the same as our dynamics. We want to develop our sublime potential. Personal paradigms in making spiritual progress involve change. As we meditate and follow the Guru we are changing on the inside. Our perceptions, our identity, our values, and our needs are all changing.

But our environment wants us to stay the same but we have an inner need to change. This is the struggle of the spiritual life. Identify a vital project you need/want to work on. Remember that progress involves change. And we are changing and we want to change on the inside.

Avatars have the same experience—those in the outside don't want them to change either.

Krishna broke down the childhood expectations to grow beyond human expectations.

Master writes about his own family conflict. His older brother was controlling and tried to thwart Master from finding God. There was a consistent struggle. When his older brother died, Master became the oldest son—for the eldest son to leave the family is no easy task. Master to forcefully refuse and he left India. Master asserted his spiritual will. Assert your spiritual will in opposition to those around you.

It's too easy to blame other people. We have to find a way to acknowledge our changes so we can peacefully and respectfully these changes with others. Others will find a way to adapt if given a chance. Consistently negotiate change in intimate relationships. We need to constantly adapt.

You might feel a kind of pressure building inside. This is a good thing. The soul wants to grow and spread its wings. Your environment wants you to change. We make changes on the inside and want to make changes on the outside but our environment doesn't want us to. Recognize this as growth taking place. Painful tensions will result between you and your environment. Understand and accept this new direction and pray for transformation. Then negotiate with those around you. Begin negotiating patiently but firmly. This becomes an invitation for others to change with you. Take responsibility for your spiritual growth. We are on a path of dramatic change. Become a spiritual leader in your personal environment.

Always set your sites on the higher goal. Don't take on another's duty. Serve your spiritual needs and do your part to help others.