

Introduction (Chapter 3 - Karma Yoga), Part 2

*** continued from last week ***

3.)

It is a fact of life that to get something we should be prepared to part with something else.

It is like paying money to buy the goods from the market. We cannot demand to get them free.

Without working we cannot get the wages and without wages we cannot buy what we want.

Taking this logic, “Moksha” does not come from “no action.” It needs input of efforts on our part. The individual who puts his efforts towards achieving it is known as “Sadhaka”, a spiritual seeker. Karma yoga gives the path for the sadhaka to attain moksha.

4.)

Yajna is dedicated action. To dedicate the results of actions with total faith and love towards the “Parabrahman” is the sure way to success for the seeker. Actions without faith and love do not get the desired result. Karma according to the instructions by the Lord really is to be considered as “Yajna.”

5.)

Karma yoga tells us what our duties are and teaches us the art of properly conducting the same. It tells us that our actions should not bring disruption or sorrow to any forms of life on this earth. This includes the members of the family and friends, members of the society and citizens in other parts of the world.

Using the intellectual capacity of reasoning, assisted and blessed by the “consciousness” within, conducting actions towards universal welfare is true “karma yoga.” This needs control over desire prompted thoughts/speech/actions at the level of mind/speech/body (Mano/vak/kaya). The Lord refers several times in this chapter to “Loka Kalyana” which means “universal welfare.”

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