

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2018

WHY WAIT?

WHY NOT IMMEDIATELY
TURN TO THE SAFE
SHELTER OF THE LORD
AS YOUR PROTECTOR?

DAY 4 · 27 OCTOBER, 2018

FAITH IN KRISHNA AS OUR PROTECTOR

Best greetings from Vrindavan!

We will continue discussing the road of *sharanagati* – taking shelter. This is actually a process with clearly defined steps. The next one is faith in Krishna as our protector.

Most of us only turn to the Lord when something dramatic and disturbing happens, something that we can't solve on our own and that shows us that we are helpless. A German saying expresses it like this: “*In the trenches of war*” – where bullets roar and bombs explode – “*you will not find a single atheist.*”

The *acharyas*, spiritual teachers, ask us:
“*Why wait that long? Why not immediately turn to the safe shelter of the Lord as your protector?*”

This way you can either avoid these critical situations altogether or you know the Lord is with you and will lead you through your darkness and problems.

There is a wonderful song of someone awakening to this understanding. Bhaktivinoda Thakur sings it:

“Now I have understood, O Lord, that Your feet are eternally full of sweet nectar that dispels all sorrow and fear. You will certainly shelter me, there are no other protectors in this world of birth and death. In my life independent from You I have experienced nothing but misery. But now, upon accepting those feet all my miseries have been cast away.”

He ends the song by singing:
“I now hold on my head those very same lotus feet, which drive away all fear, while I dance in great ecstasy singing Their glories.”

My dear readers, any contact with the Lord, through any of these steps, will immediately bring you into a position of great happiness. It is like the joy of the spark that re-enters the fire and doesn't have to struggle for existence anymore, but dances happily.

In the next two days we will continue with steps five and six and then we will be walking on our road safely – the road of *sharanagati*.