

CH 9

Texts

Section Summary

1-3

Lord Krsna tells Arjuna that He will now describe the most confidential knowledge, understandable only by non-envious persons.

Points to Cover

1

a. One can actually realize Krsna's message if he hears from the right source.

b. Krsna knows a devotee's sincerity and, accordingly, gives him intelligence to understand spiritual science.

c. The most confidential knowledge is pure devotional service.

2

a. Discuss the reasons Krsna calls this knowledge the king of education (raja-vidya).

b. Discuss the reasons Krsna calls this knowledge the most secret of all secrets (raja-guhyam).

c. Discuss the other characteristics of this knowledge: pavitram, uttamam, pratyksavagamam, dharmyam, su-sukham kartum, avyayam (as described in the purport).

3

a. "Faith" means "complete conviction that simply by serving ... Sri Krsna one can achieve all perfection."

b. One practices sadhana-bhakti to develop faith.

c. Discuss the three classes of devotees. Third class devotees often fall down, but the others do not.

Section Summary

4-10

Lord Krsna describes His mystic opulence by which He expands His energy for the purpose of creation while remaining beyond and aloof Himself.

Points to Cover

4

a. Everything exists within Krsna, but only pure devotees can see Him.

b. Krsna exists within everything in His unmanifested form, but not personally. Discuss the example of the king.

5

a. Everything rests on Krsna's energy, but He doesn't feel it as a burden.

b. Discuss Krsna's inconceivable potency: "His determination is itself actual fact."

6

Discuss the example of the sky. Everything happens within Krsna's will.

7

By Krsna's will the cosmic manifestation is created, maintained, and annihilated.

8

a. Discuss the basic process of creation.

b. All species have existed from the beginning of creation; Darwin speculated incorrectly.

9

a. Krsna eternally enjoys in His spiritual abode.

b. In relation to material activities of the conditioned souls, He remains neutral like a judge.

10

a. Krsna designs the "rule" of material nature.

b. Discuss Krsna's impregnating glance.

c. Discuss the example of the flower.

Section Summary

- 11-12 Lord Krsna explains that some fools deride the idea of His supremacy; such demons are eventually defeated in all respects.

Points to Cover

- 11 a. Some foolish people try to prove that Krsna is an ordinary man, but Krsna's human-like form has unlimited transcendental potencies.
b. Krsna is the supreme controller.
c. If those who surrender to Krsna achieve transcendence, certainly Krsna is transcendental.
- 12 Even if persons study Bhagavad-gita and pretend to follow spiritual practices, if they don't accept Krsna, they will go down (discuss verse from Brhad-visnu-smṛti).
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Section Summary

- 13-14 Lord Krsna says that the devotees, mahatmas, who know Him as the Supreme Lord, are protected by His divine energy. Such persons constantly glorify and serve Him,

Points to Cover

- 13 a. Due to their full surrender to devotional service, mahatmas gain freedom from the clutches of Maya.
b. A devotee's only concern is his relationship with Krsna.
- 14 a. One can know a mahatma by his constant chanting of the glories of the Supreme Lord.
b. Certain prescribed austerities help serious devotees in their progress.
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Section Summary

- 15-19 The mayavadis worship the Lord in His impersonal features, not knowing that Krsna, the Supreme Personality, is the basis of all Vedic processes and all existences.

Points to Cover

- 15 Discuss the three ways impersonalists worship the Supreme. Such worshippers are less advanced than the four types of men (see Chapter 7) who surrender to Krsna.
- 16 Since all Vedic sacrifices ultimately lead one to Krsna, His devotees must have already performed them all.
- 17 Krsna, through His various energies, manifests Himself as every important aspect of our existence.
- 18 Everyone's ultimate goal is Krsna. Whatever other goals people may have are also, indirectly, Krsna.
- 19 "In the advanced stage of Krsna consciousness, one ... sees only Krsna in everything."
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Section Summary

- 20-25 The worshippers of demigods or other beings attain temporary results, but those who worship Lord Krsna achieve permanent residence in His abode.

Points to Cover

- 20 Many Vedic scholars miss the point of the Vedas.
21 One who follows the Vedas, but misses Krsna, may go up to Svarga-loka, however, he must again come down to Martya-loka.
22 Krsna helps the devotee become conscious of Him and protects the devotee from falling down again.
23 Discuss the example of the government officers.
24 The Vedas prescribe yajnas for satisfying the Supreme Lord, but less intelligent persons use the yajnas for material gain.
25 Intelligent persons recognize Krsna as the Supreme and worship Him. Other forms of worship do not attract them.
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Section Summary

- 26-34 Lord Krsna describes the process of bhakti-yoga (which anyone can follow) and the protection He gives those who accept it.

Points to Cover

- 26 a. Krsna asks for very little, but He won't accept anything offered without bhakti.
b. "One who loves Krsna will give Him whatever He wants."
c. Discuss the preparing and offering of prasada, and Krsna's accepting it.
d. This verse bewilders the impersonalists.
27 One should "mold his life in such a way that he will not forget Krsna in any circumstance."
28 a. Bhakti-yoga purifies the mind and brings one to the point of full surrender.
b. Dedication of one's life to the service of the Lord constitutes genuine renunciation.
29 a. The Lord treats all living entities as His children.
b. He "becomes the devotee of His devotees."
c. The law of karma does not govern Krsna's dealings with His devotees.
30 a. Krsna excuses an occasional fall-down of a devotee who remains seriously engaged in service, and He purifies that devotee.
b. One should not deride a devotee for such occasional, accidental fall-downs.
c. This does not give license for devotees to whimsically perform abominable activities.
31 A devotee doesn't have to accept any special means for purification for such accidental fall-downs.
32 Taking shelter of Lord Krsna does not depend on external qualifications.
33 This world is "not habitable for any sane gentleman."
34 Demonic persons try to obscure Krsna when they present their interpretations of Bhagavad-gita.