The Greatest Gurubhakti

Gurubhakti and Guruseva are important factors in spiritual life. Gurubhakti helps to free the disciple from earthly attachments to worldly things and beings. Guruseva – service to Guru – when properly done, is effective in removing selfishness, laziness and cravings for comforts. True Gurubhakti is in obeying and following the upadesh (teachings) and instructions of your Guru. Real Guruseva is to conduct yourself in such a manner that your life and personal vyavahara (conduct) bring a good name to your Guru, raise his reputation to higher heights and make your Guru enshrined for ever in the memory of all men. The best Guru-Dakshina is a life lived in accordance with the Guru’s teachings. The devotees and disciples must try their utmost best to make themselves the embodiment of the Guru’s teachings and reflect Guru’s Upadesh in their day-to-day life.

The best Gurubhakti is to love all, to be kind and compassionate towards all, to never hurt any living creature, and to try as much as possible to benefit life around us – to be Good, to do Good, and to serve all. All that is positive, creative, constructive, auspicious, good, beautiful - that only should come to all around us through our thoughts, words and actions. Anything that is destructive, harmful or injurious to anyone should never come. There is no greater Guruseva than to become an embodiment of kindness, compassion and doing good to others. This is the hallmark of discipleship. To be a person of self-control, who has mastered his mind, its desires, vagaries and fantasies, overcoming the mind, and successfully centring it upon the God is the greatest Gurubhakti and Dakshina. It is true reverence to the Guru, who is Brahma, Vishnu and Maheshvara.

Bhrahma, the creator of life, is the embodiment of ahimsa. Lord Vishnu is Satyanarayana – truthfulness. Lord Siva is perfectly self-controlled, ever self-absorbed with mind and senses withdrawn, and His entire interior plunged into a state of deep, deep meditation. These three – ahimsa, satya, brahmcharya – constitute the essential part of Gurutattva. And embodying it in ourselves, reflecting in all its fullness, glory and immaculate grandness and greatness is discipleship. This is the greatest Guruseva, greatest Gurubhakti, greatest Guru-Aradhana (worship) and the greatest Guru-Dakshina. To become an embodiment of compassion, kindness, truthfulness, perfect self-control and contemplation is the essence of discipleship, the essence of Gurubhakti and seva. May we realise this truth and become blessed.

May God Bless You All!

Swami Chidananda