

Bhaktyaloka Essay 3

Prajalpa

Talking with one another is called **jalpana** or **prajalpa**.

In this world godlessness is so prominent that conversing with others means godless talk.

Therefore it is not profitable for a practicing devotee to engage in prajalpa.

Favorable
prajalpa

Kirtan

offering prayers

reciting the scriptures

Any talk that nourishes devotion to Lord

Favorable mood for favorable
prajalpa

Done to please Krishna and devoid of
material desire.

Following mahajans

Guru, sadhu, shastra : All three are important.

We follow those scriptural rules which give the highest benefit and are devoid of hardship.

To understand the practical application of shastras, we follow mahajans.

We have to see how the principles have been followed in the parampara by the acharyas.

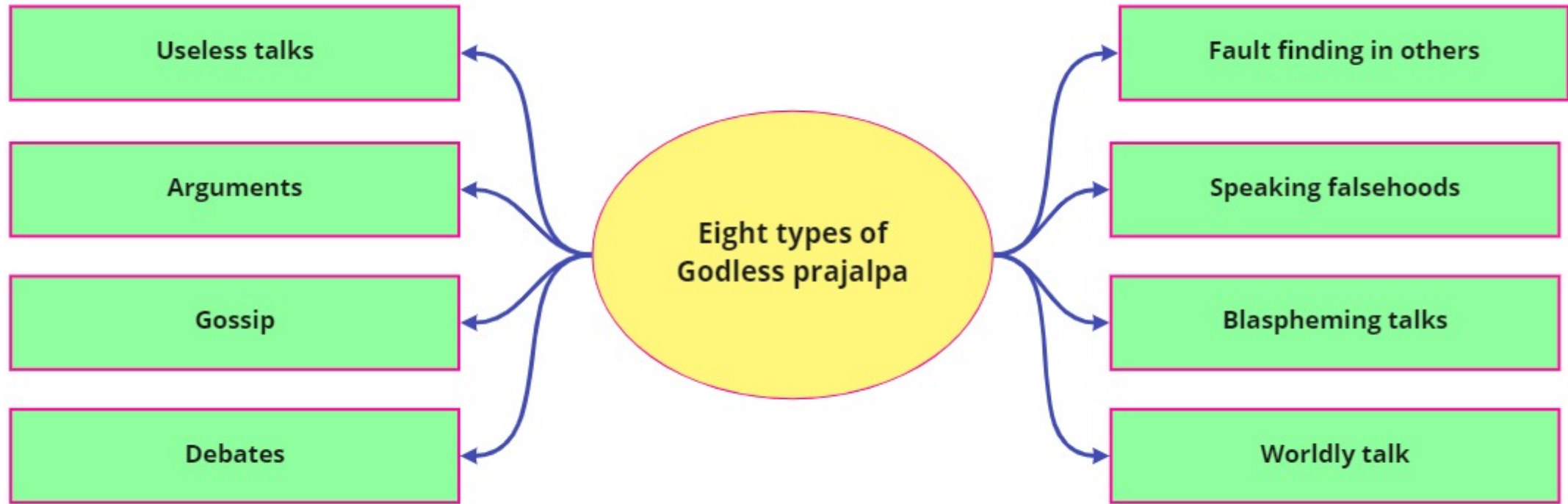
All types of prajalpa need not be given up

Sometimes puffed-up devotees advise that all types of prajalpa should be given up.

But we are Rupanugas and we follow the mahajans of our parampara.

Our mahajans always engaged in favorable prajalpa and did not give up all types of prajalpa.

Our mahājana's path is that which was shown by Srila Vyāsadeva, Sukadeva Gosvāmi, Prahlāda Mahārāja, Sri Chaitanya Mahāprabhu, and His associates.



Useless talks

Examples of useless talks

seemingly harmless talk

example: what is your opinion of ayurveda, allopath
etc?
what do you think about BJP?

News : useless talk

Must be read only if it contains topic about pure devotees.

Reading Novels : useless talk

Novels with a story like that of Puranjana in the Srimad-Bhāgavatam are allowed.

What is expected of a sadhaka?

Practicing devotees should discuss topics of Lord Hari in the association of other devotees and remember Hari's name, form, qualities, and pastimes in a secluded place without uselessly wasting time.

mac-cittā mad-gata-prāṇā
bodhayantaḥ parasparam
kathayantaś ca mām nityam
tuṣyanti ca ramanti ca

satataṁ kīrtayanto mām
yatantaś ca dṛḍha-vratāḥ
namasyantaś ca mām bhaktyā
nitya-yuktā upāsate



nityam/ satatam/nitya yukta: constantly

(at the very least, it should not be broken by some useless talk)



If they spend their days and nights uselessly talking, then the Lord's instruction, "always chanting My glories," will not be followed.

Sadhaka must never justify his wrongdoings

Not able to practice devotional service constantly because of inability is another thing. We should repent for it.

But atleast we should not purposely do, we should not plan to watch news for 1 hour everyday and keep some timepass time in schedule.

We may not have immediate capacity to give up useless talk but we should not think it is ok. We should not justify.