

Chapter 2
Part - 2
Punya karma, Meritorious Action

Faith

shastric (worship Vishnu)

svabhava-jam (laukiki/ sentimental)
(don't ask shastras whom to worship but
worship according to past impressions)

Pure

Satvic

Rajasic

Tamasic

Shuddha
bhakti

Satoguni
bhakti

Rajoguni
bhakti

Tamoguni
bhakti

Prema

Liberation

material
desires,svarga etc

Destroying
others

svabhava-jam sraddha (don't ask shastras whom to worship)

Don't even ask shastras how to worship
(whimsically worship)

Bg. 16.23
Bg. 17.5-6

Ask shastras - How to worship?
Bg. 17.1-4

Satvic

Rajasic

Tamasic

Worship
Devatas

Yakshas
and
Rakshasas

Pretas,
Bhutaganas

One can ask shastras:

1. Whom to worship?
2. Why to worship?
3. How to worship?

1. Pure devotional practitioners ask all the 3 questions.

2. Mixed devotees ask questions 1 and 3.

3. svabhava jam sraddha (don't ask shastras how to worship) - ask no questions

4. svabhava jam sraddha (ask shastras how to worship)- ask question 3

kuryāt sarvāṇi karmāṇi
mad-arthaṁ śanakaiḥ smaran
mayy arpita-manaś-citto
mad-dharmātma-mano-ratiḥ

ŚB 11.29.9

Instruction for pure
devotional sadhakas

Always remembering me, one should perform all his duties for me as the cases arise. His consciousness should be fixed in persons whose minds are dedicated to me and his mind should be attracted to bhakti.

One should accept those actions favourable for devotion and reject those which are not favourable for devotion.

Don't try to give up all activities. Because one will be forced to act according to his vasanas. So accept rules according to one's adhikara and perform those activities. (Bg. 3.5)

karma, akarma, vikarma - difficult to understand (Bg. 4.17)
Because it changes for everyone according to one's adhikara.

vikarma- forbidden action
karma - generates punya
akarma- no papa, no punya

karma, vikarma, akarma changes even for the persons with same adhikara.

Ex : for people who have karma adhikara - the rules are different for brahmana, kshatriya, vaishya and shudras

Punyas

Normally when we talk of punyas, we are referring to conditioned punyas only

constitutional punyas (pertaining to the real nature of the jiva)

Righteousness, truth, purity, friendship, honesty and affection - natural qualities of jiva

contradictory to natural qualities : hatred, lying, cruelty, lust, envy, and injustice.

conditioned punyas (relating to a relative bodily state)

Righteousness, truth, purity, friendship, honesty and affection - in conditioned state, these qualities become punya

Apart from these, anything else referred as punya is applicable only to the conditioned state of the jiva.

Ten kinds of Punyas

1. **assistance to others**
2. **service to elders**
3. **charity**
4. **serving guests**
5. **cultivation of cleanliness**
6. **celebration of festivals**
7. **performance of vows**
8. **protection of animals**
9. **increase of population**
10. **proper conduct**

Assistance to the needy

Assistance to the needy

relieving others of distress

helping others make progress

Relieving others of distress

One should try to remove other people's bodily, mental, social and spiritual difficulties.

Bodily distress

sickness

hunger

Mental distress

anxiety

lamentation

envy

fear


social distress

inability to support the family

inability to give education to the children

lack of resources for cremation

inability to get their children married



One should definitely try to help and not see these things as material activities. When we help as devotees, we give them the chance to develop some appreciation and gain ajnata sukriti (which will later give them sraddha)

Spiritual distress

lack of faith

atheism

desire for sinful acts

Helping others make progress

help people progress **physically**, **mentally**, **socially** and **spiritually**

by offering **monetary**, **physical**, and **verbal assistance**

and by engaging that person's relatives as well

Should we donate to beggars?

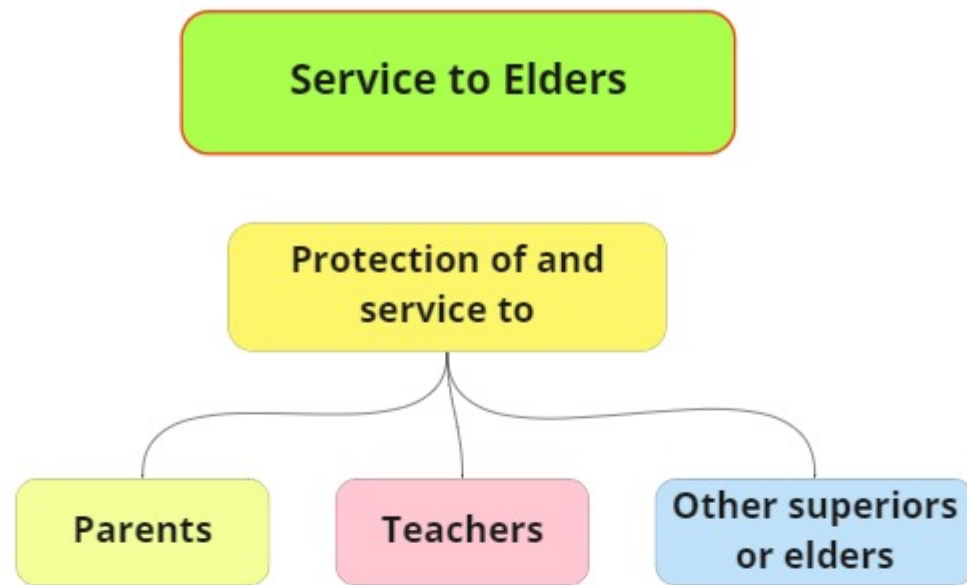
Yes, we should.

1. First option is to give prasad.
2. If no prasad, try to buy something and give to that person.
3. If not possible to buy anything, then just give money.
4. If we don't have money to give, we should atleast feel for that person's suffering and atleast pray for him.

Devotees don't get karmically bound by giving money to anyone.
Krishna is saargrahi and he sees our intention. So even if others misuse the money, we don't get any karma.

But if a devotee gives, it definitely help others gain ajnata sukriti.

When other people are suffering (even on bodily platform), it should melt our heart.
We should feel for others and try to relieve others' distress as if it was our own.



A person should serve those who have protected him as a helpless child (parents).

A person should serve those who have given knowledge (teachers), especially those who have given spiritual knowledge and mantra (guru).

Those are considered superiors who are

bigger in body,

greater in age

or more experienced in knowledge.

A person must follow the instructions of his superiors.

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graph TD; A[A person must follow the instructions of his superiors.] --> B[But one cannot follow incorrect orders of superiors.]; B --> C[But one should also not show hostility towards them, using disrespectful or harsh words]; C --> D[One should put a stop to their improper behavior or instructions by using sweet words, humility, and gentle reasoning at the proper time.];
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But one cannot follow incorrect orders of superiors.

But one should also not show hostility towards them, using disrespectful or harsh words

One should put a stop to their improper behavior or instructions by using sweet words, humility, and gentle reasoning at the proper time.