

What Kind of Disciple Am I?

There are four categories of disciple: the *guru-sevī*, the *guru-bhogī*, the *guru-tyāgī* and the *guru-drohī*. Which am I?

- 1) ***Guru-sevī*** – Such a disciple sees himself as a servant of his *guru*. That is his foremost desire and he serves *guru* for his entire life. He has no interest in name or fame. He prefers to remain a simple devotee. He accepts the instruction of *guru* as his very life and soul.
- 2) ***Guru-bhogī*** – Such a disciple tries to enjoy the assets of the *guru*. He is interested in *pratiṣṭha* and believes it to be a sign of advancement in spiritual life. Donations he collects he will use for his own purposes – he does not understand that such donations are the rightful property of Śrīla Prabhupāda and his ISKCON. He will often live luxuriantly in the name of *yukta-vairāgya*.
- 3) ***Guru-tyāgī*** – Such a disciple gives up the order of his *guru* and the *bhakti* process. This is usually because of sensual weakness, loss of faith, ignorance or uncontrolled senses. He leaves voluntarily and does not criticize the *guru* or his mission.
- 4) ***Guru-drohī*** – This is the worst type of disciple. He is rebellious, envious of the *guru*, habitually criticizes him and is prone to heinous sinful activity. He usually leaves the mission of the *guru* and politics against him and his mission very vehemently.

***Sources:** *Brahma-vaivarta Purāṇa*, *Mahābhārata* and Śrīla Prabhupāda's 1961 *Vyāsa-pūjā* offering.