

Why Did Śrīla Prabhupāda Give Us Kṛṣṇa Book? — Transcendental Insights —

Śrīla Prabhupāda rarely spoke of his own books, but careful reading of the very little he did say about Kṛṣṇa Book make his intention very clear: We should hear about Kṛṣṇa and fall in love with Him — that will bring us both happiness and life’s perfection. Let’s hear a few words about Kṛṣṇa Book from Śrīla Prabhupāda:

Our duty is to know Kṛṣṇa. *Janma karma*. Kṛṣṇa comes, Kṛṣṇa appears, Kṛṣṇa disappears. Why Kṛṣṇa comes? Why Kṛṣṇa is not seen? *Janma karma*. Why He acts? Why He teaches Arjuna? Why He dances with the *gopīs*? So many things, Kṛṣṇa’s life. We have read Kṛṣṇa book. There are so many activities. They’re all transcendental, although they’re written just like ordinary story activities of a person. But they are not ordinary things. **If you simply read Kṛṣṇa book, although it looks like story, then you become delivered from these clutches of repetition of birth and death. It is so nice.** Because you will understand Kṛṣṇa, what is Kṛṣṇa, and here it is said, *janma karma me divyam ye jānāti tattvataḥ* [Bg. 4.9]. It is explained. The people who are reading Kṛṣṇa book very seriously, and tries to understand Kṛṣṇa, he will understand. Kṛṣṇa is very kind. **As soon as he begins reading Kṛṣṇa book with a little faith and adherence, Kṛṣṇa will be very much pleased.** *Śṛṇvatām sva-kathāḥ kṛṣṇaḥ puṇya-śravaṇa-kīrtanaḥ* [SB 1.2.17]. As soon as Kṛṣṇa is within your heart, so when you read *Bhagavad-gītā* or Kṛṣṇa book with little seriousness, then Kṛṣṇa understands, “Now he is serious to understand Me.” You haven’t got to search out Kṛṣṇa. He’s already within you. Simply you have to become little serious: “Kṛṣṇa, kindly give me knowledge so that I can understand.”

*teṣām satata-yuktānām
bhajatām prīti-pūrvakam
dadāmi buddhi-yogam tam
yena mām upayānti te*

To those who are constantly devoted to serving Me with love, I give the understanding by which they can come to Me. (Bg 10.10)

— SPL Bhagavad-gītā 4.9, March 29, 1974, Bombay



The suggestions (for George Harrison’s foreword to Kṛṣṇa Book) I may repeat again, that every living entity has a dormant propensity of love for somebody else. That is exhibited not only in human society, but also in the animal society. That love is exhibited primarily in five kinds of relationship — especially as master and servant, as friend and friend, as parents and children, and as lover and beloved. This stock of love in every living entity is dormant eternal love for Kṛṣṇa, but because the living entity has

forgotten Kṛṣṇa since a very, very long time, even before this creation was manifested, therefore all of us are misplacing that dormant love in a perverted way. Therefore there is always frustration. Even so-called “sincere” love between lover and the beloved or husband and wife or even parents and children are so many instances of frustration. Therefore the only remedy for this repeated frustration of our life after life is revival of original Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

As soon as we revive that love of Kṛṣṇa in any one of the five primary relationships, as we have constitutional aptitude, immediately we become happy.

— **Letter to Syamasundara, Los Angeles, 21 Feb, 1970**