

## We Are Part of God’s Omnipresence, Omnipotence, Omniscience

Most seekers do not have the opportunity to spend time in the company of a *satguru*. However, Pūjya Swāmī Chidānandajī says that the *guru* is in his teachings. Lord Kṛṣṇa is in the teachings of the Bhagavad Gītā, and Swāmījī has also said that Gurudev’s *Universal Prayer*, *Twenty Important Spiritual Instructions*, and *Sādhana Tattva* are Gurudev to him.

Gurudev’s *Sādhana Tattva* is meant primarily for householders, his *Twenty Important Spiritual Instructions* for *sādhakas*, and his *Universal Prayer* is not only something that we should repeat each day, but contains the essence of the spiritual life—how we should conceive of God, what we should ask of God and what our relationship to God should be day by day.

Gurudev starts out his prayer in a very devotional way: “O adorable Lord of mercy and love. Salutations and prostrations unto Thee.” But then, after Gurudev has put us into a personal relationship with God, he raises us up into an impersonal realm. The reason is that our personal relationship to God retains all the ideas that we have about ourselves, which from the ultimate point of view are all false. How can we understand that? In the next line of the prayer we say, “Thou are omnipresent, omnipotent, and omniscient.”

The important thing for us to realize is that no matter what we might think of ourselves, ultimately our presence here is part of God’s omnipresence. That we are aware of being here is part of His omniscience. And the fact that one person can speak and another person can listen is a manifestation of His omnipotence. Where then is the room for any opinion about ourselves? It is simply something that we are allowing the mind to imagine.

Whether we are imagining ourselves in a favorable light or in an unfavorable light, from the ultimate point of view—indeed from the immediate point of view—is simply nothing except an imagination. This realization can liberate us by itself: “All opinions about myself are false. Because what I am is a part of God’s omnipresence, omnipotence, and omniscience. Nothing else is except That. That is what counts, not my idea, or anyone else’s idea, of what my worth may be. Because all that is just an idea in the mind, and it has no ultimate validity.”

It is very humbling to realize this. It is also liberating. But, after all, what are we in the spiritual life for except to become humbler than a blade of grass, to be like Gurudev, to be like Pūjya Swāmījī—humble and liberated? And a path towards that is to meditate each day on God's omnipresence, omnipotence, and omniscience.