**God’s Love**

**Objective:**

Understand that the universe is born out of Love and sustained with Love and that Love is present in all.

**Quotes:**

**Origins of God’s Love**

The Vedas, the most ancient scripture of mankind, proclaim the Truth of creation as the projection of the Divine through Its own Will, when it was disturbed by the desire to separate Itself from Itself, “Ekoham Bahushyam” – I am ONE; I shall become Many. “Being” willed to “Become,” say the Vedas. Baba says that we are the many which He became. Therefore, as truly as He is God, we too are Gods. He says “I am in you; you are in Me. We cannot be separated.” …..Standing on the darshan (appearance of the Divine in form) line with a book on His left palm, He writes on its fly-leaf a message for the owner and his friends. It is the Vedic pronouncement, “There was no one to understand Me until I created the worlds for My pleasure with one Word.” All scriptures anticipate His arrival and enshrine His majesty. In the beginning was the Word. He writes a letter to be read out by the Warden of the college hostel at Brindavan to the boys. His majesty pleads with Him for open communication to those He loves. So, the pen announces: “When I love Myself, I love you. When you love yourselves, you love Me. We are ONE. I only separated Myself from Myself so that I can love Myself.” This is exactly what Baba revealed to the ancient sage who sought to know the mystery of the Many and the One.

(Source: N. Kasturi, Loving God, page 358)

Baba said “See in Me yourself, for I see Myself in you. You are My life, My breath, My soul. You are all My forms. When I love you, I love Myself. I separated Myself from Myself and became all this so that I may be Myself. I wanted to be Myself, that is, the embodiment of limitless Divine Bliss and Divine Love. That is what I am and I wanted to be that. How can I be the embodiment of limitless Divine Bliss and Divine Love? And give Bliss and Love? And to whom am I to give Bliss and to whom am I to give Love? So I did this. I separated Myself from Myself and became all this.”

(Source: My Baba and I, John Hislop, page 138)

**Manifestation of God’s Love**

….All mankind and everything in the universe are bound together by the same bond and that is LOVE. The entire creation is a kinship of love. What is God? What is Energy? What is Consciousness? They are nothing but Love. God is Love. It is the power of Love alone that binds all humanity alike. It is this intangible force that forges the unity of all creation. If you are able to feel this love, then you have realized the highest Truth.

(Source: Sathya Sai’s Amritha Varshini, page 28)

*(Regarding people with unlovable natures):* First, you should understand that though the exterior may be harsh, rough and prickly, the interior is sweet. A jackfruit or a pineapple is prickly outside, but sweet inside. .…The outer forms may vary; but the inner core of all mankind is the same, saturated with the sweetness of love and divinity. It is up to you to try and see beneath the external appearance and reach below the surface. (Source: Sathya Sai’s Amritha Varshini, page 28)

**Examples of God’s Love - Commentary**

The Avatar (descent of divinity) **Sathya Sai Baba** set an example of God’s divine love throughout His life for all humans to follow. Even in His childhood, before His declaration of His Avatar, He showered love on every member in His worldly family, on all His class-mates and friends, and everyone who came into His life. Since the time of His declaration of His Avatar, He has showered love on everybody who came to Him or sought Him in their prayers. In His infinite love and grace for mankind, He gave spiritual discourses intended to awaken divinity and love in all the aspirants almost every day for so many years and wrote several books and articles for the benefit of posterity. He demonstrated, out of His love for the aspirants, the spiritual path of Devotion through the practice of singing God’s name through the regular devotional singing (bhajan) sessions in Swami’s ashrams and in the centers of the Sai organization. He organized the practice of love through service in all the Sai organizations. He showed by example love even towards animals through His love for Sai Geetha (orphaned elephant he adopted) and cows in Prashanti Nilayam.

More than 2000 years ago, in a different part of the world, **Jesus Christ** demonstrated God’s Love through his actions and teachings in his life. He showed by example how to love everyone, including those who opposed or tortured him, and even sinners.

**Suggested Questions:**

1. What is the reason why most of us are unable to feel the Love of God in our lives and in the creation around us?
2. If God loves all in the creation, why do some of us experience difficulties in life while some others have all of their wishes fulfilled and appear to have God’s grace?
3. Does God love atheists (those who deny the existence of God) too?
4. How should we manifest our love towards God omnipresent in nature and in everything on our planet earth?

**Life Application:**

Try to implement the advice given in the quote above (regarding people with unlovable nature) to feel divine love towards an unlovable or difficult person in your work life or social life, and share your experience in the next study circle session.

Affirmation

I will make it a part of my everyday spiritual practice (sadhana) to feel the omnipresence of God and His Divine Love immanent in everybody and in all things in His creation.