

Live in Love



Love is God



God is Love

Aum Sri Sai Ram

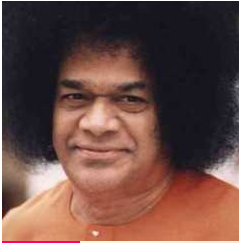
Devotion and Study as Pathways to God

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**Sathya Sai Baba Centers
North Central Region (Region 5)**

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God is Love, Man is Love

- “I separated Myself from Myself in order to Love Myself”
- True Love is Man’s Nature
- God is Love dwelling in your hearts
- God is the nearest, the dearest, the most loving, the most eager companion and kinsman for man.

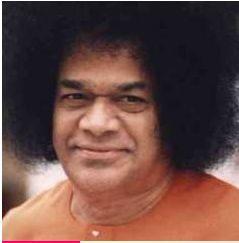
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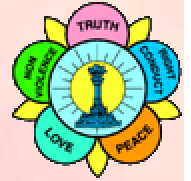
Love is God



God is Love



Sai Baba's Message on Love



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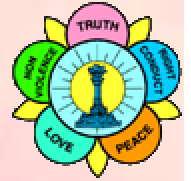


Love is God



God is Love

- I have come to light the lamp of Love in your hearts, to see that it shines day by day with added luster.
- The purpose of life is to know the Embodiment of Love, namely God, through Love and to demonstrate through your own Love that you have known God.
- Love alone can reveal the Divinity latent in all.
- Scatter the seeds of Love in dreary, desert hearts. Then, sprouts of Love will make the wastes green with joy, blossoms of Love will make the air fragrant...



Love – Basis of all Spiritual Paths

Live in Love

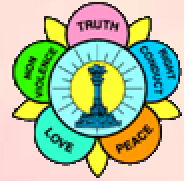


Love is God



God is Love

- **Spiritual discipline is the cultivation of Love. Be full of Love, taste the exhilaration that Love can confer.**
- **Live in Love, live with Love, move with Love, speak with Love, think with Love and act with Love. This is the best and the most fruitful spiritual endeavor.**



Definition of Devotion

- Devotion to God defined as the means of discovering the Divine Reality within each being.
- Devotion is simply the attachment towards God.
- Devotion is not simply the worship of the Lord, it is much more than that. Primarily it is the control of the senses.

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Loving God with Devotion



Live in Love



Love is God

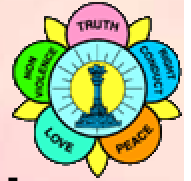


God is Love

- Love of God is the means and the Goal.
- Love you have towards material objects, name, fame, wife and children, etc. should be sanctified by being subsumed by the more overpowering Love for God.
- Devotion is Love of the purest and noblest variety. Devotion is Love, unsullied by any tinge of desire.
- What matters is the intensity of feelings.
- Devotion has to be expressed as worship of every one, as a living embodiment of Divinity.



Love leads to union with God - I



Live in Love



Love is God



God is Love

- There is no other way to attain liberation in this Kali Yuga except through the path of devotion.
- When you become transmuted into Love, the Lord, who is the embodiment of Love, will reveal Himself to you.
- The relationship between you and God is Love alone.
- Above all, be conscious of the truth that you and God are bound by Supreme Love.
- You must fill yourself with the feeling that God is in you, beside you, around you, and with you.



Love leads to union with God -II



Live in Love

- Liberation happens when you love every being so intensely that you are aware of only One. Soak your heart in Love.



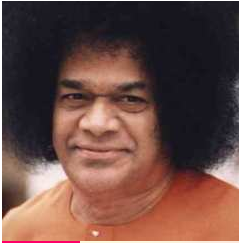
Love is God

- Be born in Love, die in Love, live in Love.
- Grow in Love, expand in Love, practice Love, strengthen Love, and finally, become Love and merge in the Illimitable Love, which is God.



God is Love

- Devotion to God is the only path for salvation.



Self-Confidence and Faith - I



Live in Love

- One has to develop faith and self-confidence. Self-confidence leads to self-satisfaction and self-sacrifice and ultimately to self-realization...One can have peace only when one develops faith in God and dedicates all his actions to God....These are three steps to self-realization, namely self-confidence, self-satisfaction and self-sacrifice. When these three go together, there will be purnathwa (fullness). (7/18/08)



Love is God

- It is the individual that has to observe for himself whether their devotion is increasing or decreasing. Everything is dependent on one's faith in God.” (7/21/08)



God is Love

- Enquire: “Do I have unflinching faith or a casual and worldly relationship with God.” (7/21/08)



Self-Confidence and Faith - II



Live in Love

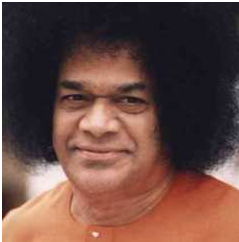


Love is God



God is Love

- **Develop firm faith and ensure that one is living with a sense of total equanimity in both pleasure and pain. (7/21/08)**
- **Have faith that God will always protect you. Develop unflinching faith in God. If you don't have faith in God, all your life becomes a waste. (S.S. 6/08)**



Feeling the Presence of God – Through Devotional Music

Love

Adoration

Devotion



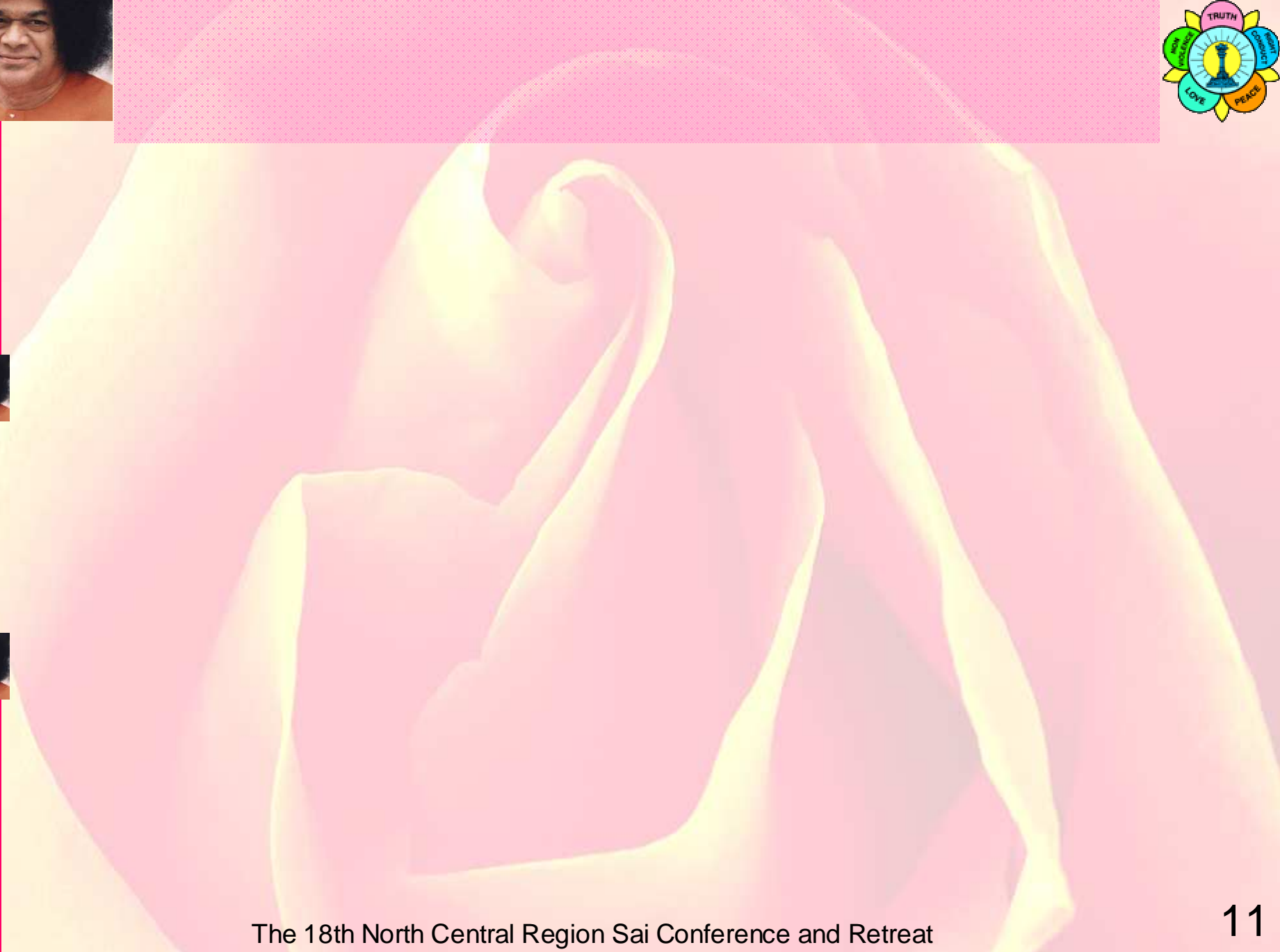
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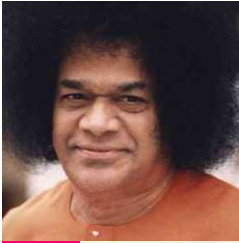


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Divine Will and Equanimity -II



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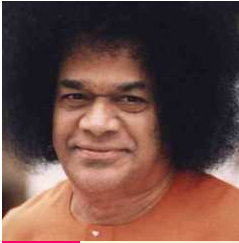


Love is God



God is Love

- Praise or criticism, treat them all as part of the divine leela. (7/20/08)
- Devotees should never do away with love. Even if others criticize, abuse and beat you, you should lead your life with love. *Live in love. Love lives by giving and forgiving, self lives by getting and forgetting.* (S.S. 7/08)
- Only divine love can be termed as true love. Divine will never betray you. Let people think what they like, let them criticize you in any manner, but always remain firmly established in divine love. (7/22/08)



Devotion and the Mind



Live in Love



Love is God



God is Love

- Mind is the cause of bondage and liberation in man.
- Do not follow the vagaries of the mind.
- When your mind is directly focused on God, maya will be totally subdued like the shadow under your feet.
- ...you have to exercise control over your mind and turn it in the right direction, i.e. toward truth and love. Then it becomes steady and attains the power of concentration.
- When we develop love for God, the mind can be controlled very easily. On the other hand, if the mind is not turned toward God, it can never be controlled. (7/22/2008)
- True devotion consists in offering all your thoughts and actions to God and yearning for His grace. True devotion transcends the limitations imposed by one's daily routines and the obligations of life.



Sacrifice, Ceiling on Desires - I



Live in Love

- It is said, “it is only by sacrifice that one can attain immortality. It is only a person with the quality of sacrifice who can experience bliss. Those with egocentric feeling of “I” and “mine” can never be happy”. (7/20/08)



Love is God

- We must bring down our selfish interest to a certain extent. (7/20/08)
- Today, everyone wishes to fulfill his selfish interests at the cost of others. (7/20/08)



God is Love

- First of all, give up bad qualities such as lust, anger, greed, infatuation, pride, and jealousy... You can see for yourself how blissful you become when you get rid of these evil qualities. (7/22/08)



Sacrifice, Ceiling on Desires - II



Live in Love



Love is God



God is Love

- **...is it possible to get all of your desires fulfilled? No. Never cause harm to others in the process of fulfillment of your desires. (7/22/08)**
- **Develop a spirit of sacrifice and sanctify your life with noble deeds...utilize your wealth for the benefit of the poor and the needy, with a spirit of sacrifice. When you spend your life in such a manner, you will certainly be redeemed. (7/22/08)**



Unity, Purity and Divinity



Live in Love

- No one has a right to enjoy when his fellow human being is suffering. All are God's children only. To whomsoever you cause suffering, it will affect you. Hence, you have to conduct your life with devotion to God and love for all human beings. (7/20/08)



Love is God

- All should remain united. Where there is unity, there shall be purity. Where there is purity, there is divinity. You all have to lead your lives keeping in view these three aspects of unity, purity, and divinity. You should not remain unconcerned with others' difficulties and sufferings. The one God dwells in the hearts of all people...show at least an iota of humanity. (7/20/08)



God is Love

- God has not created creation just for fun. He has done this to manifest the unity of all creation. It is meant to promote the principle of love in all...
- Whatever one's difficulties or troubles, one should try to help others to the extent possible. Selfless, loving service to others, is the highest sadhana. It represents true devotion...



Devotional Singing and Namasmarana



Live in Love

- Wherever My devotees sing My glory, I install Myself there
- There can be no peace without devotion...You should do bhajan to attain peace...Only bhajan can give you true peace. (S.S. 6/08)



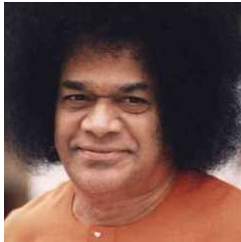
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- Bhajans are...meant to develop love for God in the community at large. When many individuals come together and form a community, then their strength increases. “



God is Love

- You should take part in bhajans wholeheartedly and sing the glory of God. Even if you are not able to do any other spiritual practice, chant the name of God. That is enough. “
- One who could make boulders to float on water, can He not make your mind float in the ocean of Samsara (worldliness)?



Namasmarana - I



Live in Love

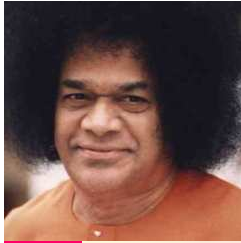


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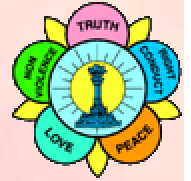


God is Love

- ...in Kali Yuga it is Namasmarana that is declared as the best means to cross the ocean of delusion and make our life worthwhile and it also helps us to attain the goal of life.
- Make any Name of God as the basis of your life; then you can achieve everything. (S.S. 7/08)
- You may spend any amount of money in charity and in doing acts of service but these practices will give you only temporary mental satisfaction if not associated with the chanting of the Divine. Therefore, chant the Divine Name and attain the Divine. It is only by chanting the Divine Name that you can easily attain God. (S.S. 7/08)



Namasmarana - II



Live in Love



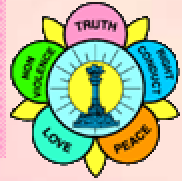
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- If you fill your mind with the Name of God, you will experience immense bliss. It is enough if you adhere to Divine Name. Then you do not need to offer any material like flowers, food, etc....Instead, offer your love to God. (S.S. 7/08)
- It is by the power of His Name that Rama crossed the ocean and reached Lanka. Hence, we should cross the ocean of our difficulties and troubles by using the power of the Divine Name. Lead your life, chanting within you constantly the Name of God who is the embodiment of peace and love. (S.S. 7/08)

Inner Vision

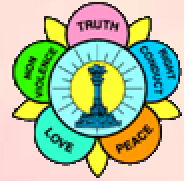
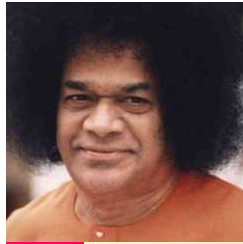


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Love is God

God is Love

- *It is possible for you to acquire any number of worldly and material things but you are not able to attain God who is within you. See God who is immanent in you. Look inside, don't look outside. Close your eyes and pray to God who dwells in you. Then only will God manifest before you and grant you everything. It is only by chanting the Divine Name that you can receive God's Grace and His direct vision.*
- If you develop inner vision, you can surely recognize truth there.
- A human being is God, verily. That is the reason why God is portrayed in human form... (7/20/08)
- All the names of individuals are only those given to the human body by their parents. (7/20/08)



Inner Vision - II

Live in Love



Love is God



God is Love

- Sit calmly and peacefully in some corner and try to enquire into the nature of your self. Know about yourself in the first instance. God is in you, with you, around you, above you, and below you. **YOU ARE GOD. (7/20/08)**
- Devotees undertake several kinds of sadhana. But they are not sadhana in the real sense. If you wish to see “reality” you have to develop inner vision...close your eyes and look into yourself. **(7/20/08)**

Study

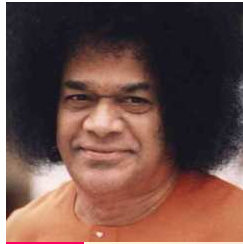


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- Study to be steady
- Mere devotion is not enough. It must be regulated by reason and discrimination. Or else, it will not flow along sane lines. Reason makes devotion a sharp instrument. Reason out the purpose of your sojourn on the earth, the purpose of the intelligence with which you have been endowed. Then, devotion will encourage you to fill your days with steady and controlled activity and take you towards liberation.
- I came to the Gita Satsang to see all of you, because I bless all efforts by man to raise himself by study and Sadhana. (1961)



Internal Study



Live in Love

- Unless you make earnest inquiry, you cannot discover the remedy applicable to your temperament and its problems. Study with faith and devotion. Delve into the significance and meaning of what you read.



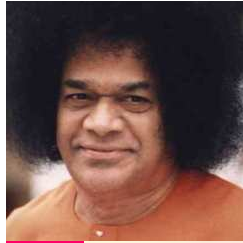
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- In fact, one's own heart is one's Guru. Whatever comes from the depths of one's own heart is the real teaching of guru (guru vakya). (7/18/08)



God is Love

- It is possible that sometimes the subtle meanings of some verses of great texts like the Bhagavad Gita may be revealed to one by one's own inner voice coming from the heart.



External Study



Live in Love



Love is God



God is Love

Do not confine your studies to this Circle and these Books. The whole universe is university for you. You can imbibe wisdom from the sky, the clouds, the mountains, the rivers, the daily phenomena of sunrise and sunset, the seasons, birds, trees, flowers and insects- in fact all beings and things in nature. Approach these teachers with awe, reverence, and humility; they will respond with their lessons.

Conclusion



The universe around you is a pleasant garden. God dances in that garden, as His own handiwork, gladdening the flowers. Be full of Joy and Love!

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