

WHO IS A GURU?

Traditionally, a Guru is known as the remover of darkness. But the Guru is all things to all men. Sri Sathguru is loved and revered by each devotee in a different way. And Sathguru is part of their lives in different ways. But there is a difference between a real Guru and a mere teacher of thoughts. That is, the Guru is constantly with the disciple and helping the disciple go beyond his existing state of knowledge. His Presence in every moment of the disciple's life is as certain as His Presence.

The Guru may be engaged in a thousand tasks, the Guru may be protecting a thousand disciples, but each disciple's needs, each disciple's wishes are constantly in His mind. And at the right time, if it is in the disciple's interest, the Guru sets about fulfilling them.

An incident what happened at Sri Peetam best illustrates this.

There was a lady who was unwell and so Sri Sathguru advised her to minimise travel alone. A year later, Sri Sathguru called a disciple in the morning and said, referring to the devotee, " If she calls, tell her that she may come alone for darshan from now on." That evening the devotee sent a message, "Today is March 13th and it is a year since I fell ill. I have missed so many darshans because I couldn't get someone to come along with me. May Sri Sathguru bless me."

That she would have this feeling of loss later in the day was known to Sri Sathguru who moved swiftly to help the devotee but only at the time, which was appropriate.

At all times, the Guru is waiting with the pot of ambrosia to feed the devotee but the devotee like a little child keeps running away here and there whenever something glittering attracts him. Prostrations to that Guru!

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