

Happiness through unity

The ocean is one and indivisible, but here it is called the North Sea and there the South Sea! So too, the Lord, the ocean of grace, is one, but He is assigned various names according to the age or era of time. The holy rivers seeking to reach the ocean flow from all directions; so too, people seek the Lord through various spiritual disciplines and finally merge themselves, all of them, in Krishna.

Mankind can win happiness only through unity, and not through diversity. If thoughts and feelings run along the routes of distinction and division, happiness is beyond reach and peace cannot be experienced. Without peace, you have no chance to be joyful. Consider the one indivisible ocean as the goal. What does the direction of flow matter? What does the name matter? The rivers merge in the self-same sea, don't they? Spiritual aspirants and devotees who adopt the path of *yoga*, the path of devotion, or the path of peace, *dharma*, truth, and love reach the ocean of grace at last, and name and form fade away; distinctions disappear. They are blessed with merger in the sea of peace.

So, unity must always be kept before the eye. Never nourish ideas of difference, of distinct names and forms of the Lord, of divergent paths. Such ideas are obstacles for the attainment of bliss. Avoid these obstacles; develop equal vision. Remember, peace is the royal road to strengthen that vision and reach the ocean of grace.