

Bhagavad Gita, Ch. 4

The Yoga of Knowledge

The purpose of these talks is to give an overview of the Bhagavad Gita from an experiential level. But intellectual clarity will help you integrate what is being revealed in these classes in your life. I suggest you set aside some quiet time to contemplate on this chapter and these questions. This is the way to get the most value from this process.

1. Each chapter in the Gita impacts the next and the subsequent chapters impact the previous; it is an interrelated morphology.
 - a. So what is the relationship between this chapter and the previous three?
2. What is the knowledge referred to in this chapter of?
 - a. How is it different from other kinds of knowledge?
3. Gita uniquely reveals that there is an ancient path to the highest state that involves the descent of force, from the psychic down to the physical.
 - a. Have you experienced such a descent?
 - b. What was its impact on your system?
4. In this chapter the Krishna within is awakened.
 - a. What are the conditions that cause this?
 - b. What is the purpose of this awakening?
5. This chapter further reveals the importance of action. What is the difference between action, inaction and prohibited action as in v. 179?
6. Verses 187 – 192 describe the different types of action one can perform on the spiritual path.
 - a. What role do these type of actions play in the development of knowledge?
 - b. How are these actions different than the actions described in Ch 3?
 - c. Have you performed any of these?
 - d. What effect did they have on your spiritual development?
7. What is the role of the enlightened master for the attainment of knowledge?
 - a. What is the best way to attain this knowledge?
8. How does knowledge burn karmas?
 - a. Have you had this experience? Describe.
9. What does this chapter reveal that can cause ‘...no hope nor happiness in this world nor in the world beyond’?
 - a. Have you struggled with this quality in yourself?
 - b. What is its cause?
 - c. How can you overcome it?

Gita Live

10. What did you get out of contemplating on this chapter?