

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2018



THE THEME OF KARTIK
IS THE ALMIGHTY LORD
BECOMING BOUND BY THE
LOVE OF HIS DEVOTEES.

DAY 10 · 2 NOVEMBER, 2018

PLEASE OFFER YOUR LIGHT

Every evening in the month of Kartik the devotees eagerly come before their altars to offer a lamp to Damodara-Krishna, who becomes bound by the love of His devotees. This is the theme or the motto of the month of Kartik: the almighty, all-powerful Lord becomes mercifully inclined by seeing the love of His devotees.

Thus, in this month, the devotees of Radha and Krishna pray to the Divine Couple that They may accept their devotional service.

We have all heard the Damodara-pastime: Krishna had stolen butter and Mother Yashoda thought, 'If I don't educate my little boy, something will go terribly wrong in His development. So, I must catch Him and reform His tendency to steal.'

So she ran after Krishna and finally when Krishna saw that His mother was getting tired and the flowers fell out her hair, He agreed to be caught. But then, whatever number of ropes mother Yashoda took in order to bind her little boy, they fell short by the distance of two fingers.

These two fingers are extremely significant. One of them refers to the effort, *parishrama*, of the devotee in his devotional practices. The other finger represents the mercy of the Lord.

Both of them – our effort, by which we show the Lord that we really want Him and also the mercy of the Lord – are important, so that the connection, the bond, *sambandha*, comes alive.

So in the month of Kartik it is actually very simple to please the Lord. No huge efforts are required.

Although normally He is called Achyuta and cannot be reached, in the month of Kartik He becomes pleased by His devotees simply when they offer Him a small lamp.

So I request you, please offer your light. Bring your light before the altar to Krishna and you will see miracles unfold.