

SB 1.2.18: By regular attendance in classes on the Bhāgavatam and by rendering of service to the pure devotee, all that is troublesome to the heart is almost completely destroyed, and loving service unto the Personality of Godhead, who is praised with transcendental songs, is established as an irrevocable fact.

1. The remedy for eliminating all inauspicious things within the heart is the association of the Bhāgavatas. The two types of Bhāgavatas are:
 1. The book Bhāgavata and
 2. The devotee Bhāgavata.
2. The book Bhāgavata and the devotee Bhāgavata are identical.
 1. A devotee Bhāgavata is as good as the book Bhāgavata because the devotee Bhāgavata leads his life in terms of the book Bhāgavata.
 - Lord Kṛṣṇa comes as Lord Caitanya to show us how to surrender to Kṛṣṇa. ([*Teacher is learning his ABC's*](#))
 2. The book Bhāgavata is full of information about the Personality of Godhead and His pure devotees, who are also Bhāgavatas.
3. By sincere association of the Bhāgavatas, one receives transcendental knowledge very easily and becomes fixed in the devotional service of the Lord.
 1. By pleasing the devotee Bhāgavata, one can receive the benefit of the book Bhāgavata.
 - The devotee Bhāgavata is a direct representative of Bhagavān. ([*Representative of Kṛṣṇa*](#))
 - **Example:** Simply by associating, serving and accepting the remnants of foodstuff left by the sages, the son of a maidservant got the chance to become a great devotee and personality, Śrīla Nārada-deva. ([*Devotional service is directly perceived*](#))
 2. The messages of the book Bhāgavata should be received from the devotee Bhāgavata.
 - **Example:** When some of Bhaktisiddhanta's disciples left the class to attend aarti, he chastised them saying that they had only seen a stone. ([*You saw only stone*](#))
4. The combination of these two Bhāgavatas will help the neophyte devotee to make progress on and on.

SB 1.2.19: As soon as irrevocable loving service is established in the heart, the effects of nature's modes of passion and ignorance, such as lust, desire and hankering, disappear from the heart. Then the devotee is established in goodness, and he becomes completely happy.

1. As soon as one is fixed in irrevocable devotional service, he becomes fully satisfied in spiritual bliss.
 1. This state of existence is called Brahma-bhūta or ātmānanda, or the state of self-satisfaction. ([*brahma-bhūtaḥ prasannātmā, BG 18.54*](#))
 2. This self-satisfaction is not like the satisfaction of the inactive fool.
 - The inactive fool is in the state of foolish ignorance.
 - **Example:** Indradeva was so happy in the hog's body that he did not want to return to the heaven. ([*I am very happy*](#))
 - The self-satisfied ātmānandī is transcendental to the material state of existence.
 3. Devotional service is not inactivity, but the unalloyed activity of the soul.
2. Devotional service causes complete elimination of the effects of passion and ignorance.
 1. Soul's pure activities, contaminated due to the contact with matter, are expressed in the form of lust, desire, hankering, inactivity, foolishness and sleep. ([*kāma eṣa krodha eṣa, BG 3.37*](#))

2. The devotee becomes fixed in the mode of goodness and he makes further progress to the state of unalloyed goodness.
 - Only in śuddha-sattva state, can one always see Kṛṣṇa face to face by dint of pure affection for the Lord.
 - “Throwing off my hand, O Krishna, You’ve run away – what is so wonderful about that? I’ll only consider You as strong as a man if You can escape from my heart!” – Srila Bilvamangala Thakura.
 - A devotee situated in the mode of unalloyed goodness harms no one.
 - But the non-devotee, however educated he may be, is always harmful. ***(yasyāsti bhaktir bhagavaty akiñcanā, SB 5.18.12)***
 - **Example:** Lord Jesus prayed to the Lord to forgive people who were trying to kill him. ***(Forgive the enemy)***
3. A devotee is neither foolish nor passionate.
4. A devotee is always qualified with all the good qualities of God.
 - Lord decorates his devotees with spiritual qualities.