

Technology. One word that has revolutionized the world we live in today. Anything and everything is possible using this phenomenal creation. We can connect with millions of people with a push of a button, we can have all queries answered by a simple search engine, we can reach places no man has set foot. We think of technology as the mother of advancement. But how much have we as a society really advanced when we can go on the moon but can not have selfless relationship with the people around us. All we find is cut throat competition in all realms of life. Friends can not stand peers getting ahead. Brothers can not stand brothers getting ahead. One's worth is gauged by the gadgets he owns and not the value of his ethics. We forget that we as humans make gadgets, gadgets do not make us. In the midst of all these "advancements" we are covered in a false blanket of security: power. Having the world at the tip of our fingertips makes us feel invincible. In the depths of this overwhelming "progress" we forget about He who graciously gave us this life.

Every gadget comes with a 2.0, 5s, and updates, but the solution to these battles for knowledge, wealth, God, and self-less love does not come with new editions. The Bhagvad Geeta, a 5,000 year old text guides us with clarity no matter what the problem no matter what the year. How can such an ancient text revive my belief in God and create that thirst to seek Him. Chapter fifteen verse fifteen of the Geeta, *Sarvasyam chaham rudhisan nivistho...*, has God himself explicitly state that I reside in the heart of each and every one. This concept of indwelling god creates a reverence for all of mankind. When our eyes are constantly glued to a screen, we forget the important people and relationships around us. Having reverence for mankind helps us realize and truly believe in a statement we now unintelligibly throw around: "all men are created equal." It is difficult to live by something we do not believe in, but this verse from the Geeta washes away any doubts. It helps us realize that we are innately equal in His eyes and my materialistic possessions and technological advancements will not give me a spiritual advantage. This is truly a phenomenal claim made by Him, because today's idea of practicing Sanatan Dharma begins and ends with spending money in the name of God, waging war in the name of God, and holding pujas for masses in the name of God. These mere actions of blind faith that help us gain fame, power, and prestige do not lead us to the path of God.

In order to become one with God we have to offer our efficiency to Him. This can only be done when we do something we are good at with God in the center. One may ask how this does Him any good? By keeping God in the center of our actions we deter ourselves from creating superiority or inferiority complexes. The ego is ultimately sublimated in doing this, and we are able to selflessly do work for Him. God does not exactly need us, if anything we need Him, and this can only be understood when we realize He does not work for us but He works with us. He unconditionally loves us and takes care of us be it by returning our memory as we wake up every morning, digesting our food every meal we eat, and putting us back to rest every night. To be human is to be grateful, and the least we can do to show our gratitude toward Him is offer our efficiency to Him. The Mahabharata quite clearly articulates the idea of ascending efforts of man and the descending grace of God. Those who follow a path of righteousness will be taken care of. Arjun amid all his doubts and dilemmas is led to victory in the battle of dharma by Lord Krishna himself. This principle is emphasized by God in the Geeta in chapter nine shloka thirty

*Kshipram bhavati dharmaatmaa shashwacchaantim nigacchati; Kaunteya pratijaaneehi na me bhaktah pranashyati.* God himself assures that those on the path to Me will be taken care of.

Many times in life Yahoo Answers will not have all the answers to life, but in moments like those the Geeta instills faith in us. *Nashto mohah smritir labdha tvat-prasadamayacyuta sthito 'smi gata-sandehah karishye vacanam tava* (Chapter 18 verse 73). This shloka reconfirms the idea that my queries and doubts will be resolved when I put faith in Him. It is equally important to note that this is a clarification made by God himself and by no means does it truncate our authority of free will. God has given us all the tools, *Nimita mataram*, which are our Dharma Ghranths to live a life that He would be proud of. Now it is up to us how we apply these principles into our lives to face the obstacles we face today. The Geeta is referred to as the Bible of Humanity because its principles are applicable and relevant to any conflict we face today be it technology, war, epidemics, etc.

Technology has indeed made the world closer, but the Geeta keeps the world together. Much good has been bestowed upon this world due to technology in a variety of industries such as transportation, communication, healthcare etc, and these industries truly add a new dimension to our lives. Although the objects i.e. technology themselves are not innately bad, our possessive thirst for these objects can be detrimental and hinder us from spiritual upliftment. We have gained the power of precision and efficiency through technological advancements but we need not forget the power of the heart and human touch. In times of despair, loneliness, and discouragement, we should remember He who resides within us and everyone else. Siri can unfortunately only be so much of a consolation.