

The Life Flow

LIVING BY THE HEART



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Life is for living. Could there be any doubt about this axiomatic statement? There could however be many opinions about how one should live life. The need for living life with joy and bliss grows rather manifold in this age of inane speed. Speed has added wings to human imagination. Human aspirations are soaring high. Man's capacity for toiling with a view to actualizing his coveted goals in life has reached new heights. Living quality life is the dream of every soul across the globe. What are the ingredients of quality life? Must we not pause for a while at least for clarity sake? Goals are reached and new

goals are set. All this is true. What is the purpose of having a goal at all? What could be the ultimate motive behind realizing one goal after another? Is there a particular goal that could be the goal of all goals? Could one have freedom to live life without worrying too much about goals? Is life only about speed, pomp and power to which most of us seem to have consecrated our lives? Where is the joy of living gone? Is it the toil of life that alone counts? It would be worthwhile to reflect upon the pragmatic lines of Albert Einstein:

'Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted.'

It is important for us to be candid in accepting our limitations in deciphering Life in totality. With all advancements in science, art, craft, Engineering and Technology, we still fall short of knowing everything that Life has in store for us. It is therefore essential to be loving and car-



ing. Every human being craves to love and to be loved. This is heart's longing. But we will never be able to understand this universal human need; this can only be felt by the heart. Thanks to the overweening ambition of the brain that human heart has gone into hibernation. The world often eulogizes the incredible deeds accomplished by the brain. The

heart is despised more often than not. This is despite the fact that human heart is the abode of all virtues and splendor that the universe has access to. History is replete with examples how life changed for many once they listened to their hearts. Gandhiji was one such person. He was studying in school then. The examination was in progress and school

inspector was out to inspect. A teacher found young Gandhi not writing correctly. So, the teacher gave him enough hints to copy correct answers from the student sitting just next to him. But young Gandhi did not obey the teacher because he listened to his heart. It was the same Gandhi who went to become a veritable Mahatma and about whom one of the

greatest scientists of the world could proudly proclaim that the generations to come could not easily believe that a man like Gandhi in flesh and blood ever walked on this earth. It was not M K Gandhi alone who shook the world by the power of heart. Mother Teresa is yet another example of living life by the heart. She found a hope that inspired humanity. She was a mere 5ft. tall angel who embraced Kolkata's sickness and squalor. She remained wedded to her heart throughout. It was in the year 1979, Mother Teresa was awarded Nobel Peace Prize, when she said, "I accept in the name of the poor." Then she made a request that the traditional banquet be cancelled so that its cost could go to the needy. That was the golden heart of this ever benign Mother called Teresa. We must restore the Heart its pristine glory. We would do well to take a cue from the powerful sentiments expressed by none other than Mother Teresa:

God has not called me to be successful. He has called me to be faithful.

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