



Case Study

Chapter 2 -Yoga of Knowledge

It was a day in the rainy season. The holy Ganga was flooded. There was no boat on the bank. Two pilgrims came to the bank and wanted to cross the river and go to the other side. They thought for some time and then decided to cross the river with the help of God and other deities. One of the pilgrims believed in only one God, so he prayed to that God and jumped into the river saying "Oh Bhagawan". After sometime, he was on the other bank of Ganga. The other pilgrim thought it was unwise to depend on one God when there were many Gods to help him. He bowed down to the holy river, offered prayers to all Gods and plunged into Ganga saying "Oh Bhagawan". After sometime, he started to think, what shall I do if Bhagawan fails?" So he called the God Hanuman for help and as soon as he prayed, he sank for a while and then floated. He was afraid that he sinking, and so he now called "Durga" and the same thing happened. He was very horrified and started calling all the Gods one by one. Every time he called the God, he would sink and then float. Finally, he reached the other side of the bank. He was very disgusted and said "In spite of God himself and so many Gods as well as Goddess, I have reached the bank in such a shameful condition".

1. Why the first pilgrim reached the other bank quickly than the second pilgrim?
2. What was the faith level of the 1st Pilgrim vs. the 2nd Pilgrim with respect to God?
3. Is it wrong to believe in many Gods?
4. How many Gods do you believe in? Why?
5. What lesson did you learn from this story?