

Responsibly Irresponsible

Human beings can be classified into three categories:

1. **Materially Irresponsible** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
2. **Materially Responsible** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
3. **Spiritually Responsible** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



The materially irresponsible people - like the students who loaf around without studying - are lazy, whimsical and careless.

The materially responsible people - like the conscientious students who remember that their parents are paying for their education - are mindful of their obligations to others.



The spiritually responsible people acknowledge all that others are doing for them - and they also recognize that ultimately God is doing everything for them through their loved ones. They understand that, when a mother breastfeeds her child, it is God who is arranging for the milk in the breasts of the mother to nourish the child that he has sent into this world through her womb. A well-known saying among wise doctors is, "we treat, he heals." The Rig-Veda unequivocally asserts this all-pervading beneficent role hand of God:



"It is not due to love of wife that the wife is beautiful;
It is due to love of God.
Indeed, it is due to love of God
That all things are beautiful."

The spiritually responsible people do their needful duties to the people who are acting as instruments for God. And they also do their duty towards God who is doing everything for them through different people and who is also providing heat, light, air and water through nature. God has revealed our duty towards him in the sacred scriptures. He wants all of us to live harmoniously in this world, awaken our dormant love for him and ultimately return back to his eternal abode of everlasting happiness. The easiest and best way to develop our love for God is by associating with his devotees and chanting his holy names, both of which are our fundamental spiritual responsibilities.

Unfortunate are those who, due to spiritual ignorance, stay stuck self-righteously at the level of material responsibilities only and don't take exclusive time out for God. In the eyes of the sacred scriptures, they end up being responsibly irresponsible and miss out on the supreme grace of God which alone can enrich their life with divine love and fulfilment.

