

Prabhupada: Yes, Christian, if you take... Just like Lord Jesus Christ is a bona fide teacher, and he has given his teaching, his commandments. If you follow those commandments, then you are bona fide student. But if you don't follow then you are not bona fide.

[Here Prabhupada is not talking in past tense-he is talking about today , right now one can become a Jesus student/disciple]

Richard Webster: And if you try to follow but fail or if you...

Prabhupada: No, you must follow. You cannot fail. Just like Lord Christ says, "Thou shall not kill." You must follow that. If you do not follow, then you are not Christian. It is not the question of that you could not follow or you are weak to follow. You must follow.

Again, how does one become a follower today of Jesus?

### 3) 681002LE.SEA Lectures

Tamala Krsna: Can a Christian in this age, without a spiritual master, but by reading the Bible and following Jesus's words, reach the...

Prabhupada: When you read Bible, you follow spiritual master. How can you say without? As soon as you read Bible, that means you are following the instruction of Lord Jesus Christ, that means you are following spiritual master. So where is the opportunity of being without spiritual master?

Madhudvisa: I was referring to a living spiritual master.

Prabhupada: Spiritual master is not the question of... Spiritual master is eternal. Spiritual master is eternal. So your question is without spiritual master. Without spiritual master you cannot be, at any stage of your life. You may accept this spiritual master or that spiritual master. That is a different thing. But you have to accept. As you say that "by reading Bible," when you read Bible that means you are following the spiritual master represented by some priest(ritvik) or some clergyman in the line of Lord Jesus Christ. So any case, you have to follow a spiritual master. There cannot be the question without spiritual master. Is that clear?

And what is the result of following such a pure devotee spiritual master as Jesus?

### 4) 681018LE.SEA Lectures

whether it is Bible or Gita. If you can develop love of Godhead by reading Bible, it is first class, and if you can develop love of Godhead by Bhagavad-gita, it is first class. And if you do not, then either it is Bible or the Koran or Bhagavad-gita, it has no effect for you. So it is up to you. Not by comparison, but by your own activities. If you actually follow the instruction given by Lord Jesus Christ, you will [here again, present and future tense ] also develop love of Godhead. There is no doubt.

Similarly, if you follow the instruction of Krsna, you will also develop. So it is up to you. You try to follow. If you do not follow, simply try to make a comparative study "This is good" or "This is

bad," "This is bad" or "This is good," that is called srama eva hi kevalam--simply laboring. Why comparative study? Just see how much you are developing love of Godhead, that's all. Phalena pariciyate. "Whether it is apple is there, that's all right; never mind what is this tree. I'm concerned with the apple." Yes.

And if one actually follows either guru (Jesus or Prabhupada) he will get the love of God.

But what if one cannot understand what the guru is speaking right now?

5) 700704AR.SF                      Lectures

Pressman: Do you know how many followers there are in the United States now?

Prabhupada: Unlimited. (devotees roar) Some of them admit and some of them do not admit. That's all. (laughter) Everyone is eternally servant of God, but some of them admit and some of them do not admit. That is the difficulty. But anyone who does not admit, he is servant of somebody. That is a fact. He cannot be master. Everyone is servant. But one who knows that "I am servant of Krsna," his life is perfect. That's all. Please try to understand this point that everyone is servant. Even your president is servant of the nation. So nobody can say that "I am no one's servant." He is servant, but he does not know that actually he is the servant of the Supreme Lord. That is his ignorance. We are just eradicating this ignorance, that "You are servant, but you admit that you are servant of God. That will make your life successful." That's all. Therefore I say that there are unlimited followers. Some of them admit and some of them do not admit. That is the difficulty. But if anyone comes to me, I shall make him to admit.