

---

# THINK THAT ALL IS BORROWED

---

**Eruch Jessawala**

Mandali Hall, Meherazad, India

August 8, 1985

5:00

**ERUCH:** Well Mani was saying things that reminded me of somebody having put the question to Ramakrishna. You have all heard of Ramakrishna? Ramakrishna of Calcutta. He was a Perfect Master of his time from the nineteenth century. He passed away just six years before Baba was born. Naturally he was a simple person, and he spoke of truth, intrinsic truth, and at that time there were many people around him who never wanted to have anything to do with the personal aspect of the Lord. Lord was the absolute reality. So he insisted that it was of paramount importance that you should have the image of the impersonal one in order to reach the impersonal. And then he insisted on, same thing as Mani said, that every little thing counts, remember Him, think of Him. But Him who? Anybody that you can begin to imagine in person. So one person in that congregation did ask,, 'is it ever possible for us to do that while we are householders?' And what a beautiful reply he gave. It is just there, so fresh in my mind, he says:

'Of course! We all are householders, and it is absolutely possible for anybody and everybody to do it. You have your wife, you have your children, you have your business, you have to do this and you have to do that. Now take the case of the maidservant working in a very wealthy person's house, and she's there all the time day and night, services there. Because she has to, she's a slave there like that. Paid for it. So she serves well. She has to look after the children. She has to see to the cooking. She has to see to the dishwashing, the sweeping, everything. It's her own house it seems... But does she really think that it's her own house? No, she knows that she has her own. She even calls the children of her wealthy person her boss. My Nita, my Sita, come here, my, my, my... She has even taken them as her own, calling them out as mine. Where's my Sita gone now? Ram go and call her, and so forth and so on.

But she knows that she has her own children. She knows that all the time while she is in the world that she has created living there, she knows that it's not hers. She remains just as an instrument, working there. Seeing to the needs of the moment at the time. But all the time her mind is focused on her own husband that is working somewhere, her own children that are there, her own household that is there, and all that is there. So likewise, he said that man, being in his household, must have his mind all the time pinned onto their own beloved Lord. Because all this is nothing but borrowed things. All this household that you feel, your wife and your children, all this is nothing. But this is just like you have been planted over there to do your duty, and this is your responsibility. All the time mind and heart is set on your very own. And I am that very own'.

That's what he says, so that's how one has to decide ones' responsibility in worldly life. Always having the mind focusing on him in every act, all the time. It's very difficult, very difficult, but it's not impossible. It is possible, and it becomes your very life. It is a match box, well it didn't belong to us a minute before, I purchased it. As soon as I have it in my pocket, I immediately identify it to be mine. And if somebody asks, if somebody has taken

it, I immediately ask where is my match box? It wasn't yours. Immediately it belongs to me, it's mine it's mine, and that's the trouble. So we have to get out of this me, mine, I.