

## The Most Beautiful Story

Today, I'd like to talk about what we have—not what could be, not what isn't, but what we already have. So many of us would rather hear about a dream—how it could be, how something could change. But I talk about the most priceless thing that all the money in the world could not replace—your life. Do you know how to see the value of the gift you've been given?

First of all, we have to make a distinction, because we take all the things that happen in life—our problems, the good and the bad—mix it up with our existence, and say, "This is my life." But that is not the way to measure our lives.

We have a need. It is a need, not a want. Want is an ocean that will keep changing. Today you want a blue suit; tomorrow you'll want a gray one. How do I know? Look at all the advertisements: "This is what you need, this is what you want, this is how it should be." Everybody has been saying that to you all your life: "This is what you should be, this is what you need, this is what you want, this is how it is."



What do you really need? The time has come to ask that question of your own heart—the one thing that has been true to you since childhood. Experience it for yourself. We abdicate the most important thing we have—experience. Remember when you were young and your parents told you, "Don't touch that; it's hot." It didn't make any sense until one day you touched it and you knew. A lifetime of lectures does not equal one second of experience. So many people *talk* about peace. Either you experience peace or you think about it. Thinking about water won't quench your thirst. You have to drink water.

What does it mean to know your self? We know our friends better than we know ourselves. If you want to know your self, there *is* a way, and it begins by recognizing your existence, by recognizing your heart, by recognizing this possibility in your life. Take off the glasses of good and bad. See your self—and you will see the gift of an existence. All that remains is to truly accept that gift. When I can begin to see a most

wonderful, precious reality, then my heart begins to dance.

Anything and everything that you could possibly want or need is right here. There is no question whether that beauty is within you or not—it's within everyone. The only difference is there are those who have experienced it, in whose life it has manifested, and there are those in whose life it has not yet manifested.

The greatest miracle is taking place in this moment called *now*—you are alive. This moment has the most beautiful possibility: you can fall in love with this breath that comes into you and brings you life, love, understanding, comfort, and everything you could possibly ever need.

The most beautiful story is unfolding, and that is the story of you. No one else can narrate that story. The request from your heart is very, very simple: Be fulfilled. Be in joy. Be in peace.



Maharaji