You can try to take the side of truth and justice in your life, but it will only have strength if you are extending truth and justice to those around you.

Truth shines by itself. It unfolds imperceptibly, like a flower. Truth does not need the blowing of trumpets. Truth does not try to win; it has no need to win. You have to stay on truth. If, out of fear, or ease, your prestige, security sense, or for any other reason you compromise or give up truth, then you are not on the principle. Then any amount of shouting will not fetch any results. Truth has to be lived.
Truth shines by itself. It unfolds imperceptibly, like a flower. Truth has no need to win. Truth has to be lived.

Truth is what exists and that which makes you exist, abide and survive. Truth makes you live in God. Here is the nearest possible or highest definition of truth: what it is. So if you are trying to see what it is, you are sticking on truth. Truth will shatter and vanish the ego, as the sun vanishes darkness. Ego often opposes the truth, or at least denies or keeps quiet for its own defense. Therefore darkness and ignorance persist. We do not want to see what it is, only what we want, what we like. Therefore ego does not see the truth.

Then if someone comes to me saying, “Swamiji, bless our peace march,” I say, “Well, it is a good motive, but I do not think it will work. You can march, but peace will not come.” Have those who are marching achieved inner peace? If not, they cannot ask for it from others. Those who have not solved their own problems cannot help the problems of others. Though they may want to help, they can only do so blindly, not knowingly. What you have seen, what you have “achieved,” what you have “acquired,” only that can you manifest. I will humbly suggest, first be what you want to preach, give or accomplish.

You can try to take the side of truth and justice in your life, but it will only have strength if you are extending truth and justice to those around you. Simply quoting the scriptures or legal books or the support of one’s own cause does not mean justice. Do you live justice or do you just talk about it? To me that is an important question. You cannot be what you believe in unless you live it. I do not know what the dictionary says, but to me, “believe” is a derivation of “be” and “live.” What you believe you have to be and live. So if you say, “I believe in something,” my reply is: “Are you that, and do you live that?” If not, then you do not believe it. It might sound as if I am playing with words, but it is truth.

If you are transforming yourself and your life, you are not obliging anyone, you are helping yourself. If you say it requires a heavy price, I would say that there is no price at all. You are just giving away your junk. In our homes we accumulate much junk lying around for decades. Your transformation is not just giving away—your whole consciousness uplifts, your whole evolution rises. You are growing, expanding, and getting into the proximity of Light. You are going to face the truth, that brilliant, dazzling Beloved. What price would you pay? It not only requires conviction and faith but is the only thing that is supposed to be done. What else has greater worth than transformation?

Without transformation, we will twist the meaning of everything else in life. Ego will twist even the meaning of love and make it attachment. It will twist the meaning of freedom. Haughtily saying, “I want to do what I want to do,” in the name of freedom, interferes with the freedom of others. Someone could interfere in my jurisdiction and say that is their freedom. Likewise, we could twist the meaning of peace to be whatever gives us pleasure or happiness. Even the meaning of security can be twisted, which is actually greed. This is how everything becomes twisted if we do not do what we are supposed to do. It is like building on a foundation of sand, of falsehood. If you are avoiding the basic truth, whatever else you do will be weak and faulty.

Transformation means a solid foundation, as it should be. The word freedom has often been misused for selfishness. Whatever one likes to do, he calls it
Truth is so silent but so eloquent, no noise can drown it. Truth is so abiding that it does not need the self-confidence of ego. It frees you from fear or doubt about security.

When basic truth is avoided, then you will project falsehood to defend your untruth. And gradually you will tighten corners of yourself into frustration. Consciously or unconsciously, the untruth will go on biting. When you suppress it with your ego force, it will go into the subconscious. Then it will come out in dreams or other situations. As you grow in age, deformities, insecurities, and other weaknesses occur; and untruth will begin gnawing at you until it comes out. This may sound grim but it is the truth. Truth is what it is. Some say truth exists, some say truth is self-existent; some say truth shines by itself. All these are the same. Falsehood does not shine; it is dark.

Start practicing truth in every situation, in every relationship, in every action. First try to see as it is. Do not mix or mince anything with it. And from there, I assure you that you will know what you should do. But if you again cover up the truth, you will not know what to do next. There will be confusion. Your spiritual unfoldment will stop right away and you will again project with good or bad motives.

Falsehood is an ego trip. It may seem to work for the time being, maybe even for many years, but you will see that bubble of vanity burst. No strength of ego will work at that point, though you might try to save it or hide it as much as you want. If you avoid the truth, you will never get lasting satisfaction in anything. So what I am telling you is for your good, and it is not a high price to pay. On the contrary, you are only throwing out junk. Junk may be a strong word but it is true. If you again want to get back your freedom, you will have to pay a high price. But if you unfold properly, you will know what you should do. And from there, you will get your freedom.

When truth is absent, false personality has no strength to exist. When truth is there, false personality is shattered. It cannot exist. You cannot continue to resist the truth. The truth is there. It is the very one who demands truth from everyone else. The one who wants to avoid truth is the one who cannot love others. The reason is simple: they are afraid that others will not return their love. They protect their ‘not loving by falsehood and, at the same time, create a false social image of a good personality. These are simply personalities, whether they are attorneys, doctors, architects, artists or teachers, whether they are in Chicago, New York, Delhi, Bombay, Moscow, Paris, Berlin, Rome, London, or Stockholm. It could be among uneducated, hardworking rural people as well, although we cannot blame them as much.

It is in Benares too—the holy city, the city of light! Falsehood is there too. They may go to bathe daily in the Ganges to wash off their sins and untruth, but when they come out of the holy river it goes back on their shoulders. A sage was asked, “In the scriptures they have said that bathing in the Ganges washes off all sins, so why do those who bathe continue to do the same things?” The sage replied, “Mother Ganga is so pure that you cannot take your sins there. But there are trees on the river bank where they wait, and when you come out of the river they jump back on you there.” When truth is absent, false personality has no strength or meaning. Can you imagine how educated people, professionals, with status in society, earning good money, can still be puny? Why does this combination exist? I would say it is because they are avoiding the truth. If they would just face it, things would be fine.

Avoiding to see what is prevents you from unfolding properly. Then you build up your personality. That is projection, not transformation. If you are unfolding spiritually, no one will insult you. It is so natural, impeccable, loving, justified, peaceful, cooperative and harmless that no one can put a finger on it. Everyone will love you. In contrast, when you project, a false personality builds up, and that is what freedom. Tomorrow you can put on a policeman’s uniform and walk on the road and the mayor asks, “Who are you? Are you a policeman? Then why you are wearing a police uniform? ” “Oh, I should have asked you.” You are not a policeman. You may twist the meaning of freedom, but there is no guarantee that you will get what you want. Likewise peace in the name of pleasure is not peace. Happiness in the name of want. Likewise, peace in the name of one’s own gratification is not peace. Happiness in the name of freedom to wear this if I choose to.” But you are not a policeman. You may twist the meaning of freedom, but there is no guarantee that you will get what you want. This is actually a law of evolution, which is not cruelty but justice: if we misuse our freedom or twist the meaning so that someone else loses theirs, we will suffer the consequences. Supposing I come in your jurisdiction and use my freedom as I want, then you lose your freedom or privilege, right? Nature does not agree with this. In the ultimate analysis, natural law has neither violence nor nonviolence. In the whole process of revolution, evolution and involution—three different positions of movement in the cosmos—law works on justice. Justice is not what we like, but inherent in the mechanism of the cosmos. As you interfere in someone else’s jurisdiction, you are pushed back. You not only lose that ground but also your own ground. This is a universal law.
If you are unfolding spiritually, it is so natural, imperceptible, peaceful and harmless that no one can put a finger on it. Everyone will love you.

feels hurt. Even if you tell it the truth, it goes on hiding in the corner. This has become the double-facedness of modern civilization. I am not a pessimist, but I have said in many Satsangs that such civilization brings wars, and everyone knows that the warfare we are capable of today will destroy everything.

Come back to the individual: with education, profession, money, status in society and trying to save the ego, there is no peace for that person. If ever a little happiness or excitement comes, it is short lived. This is proof that such things cannot give you peace. How could they when they are based upon falsehood? You are avoiding to see what it is: the very basis of your whole existence. Once you understand this, you will begin to unfold beautifully, like a divine being. And surprisingly, you will perceive Light coming out of you, that you are not only surrounded by Light like an aura, but that dazzling Light is radiating from you, whether from the heart chakra or the crown chakra.

Be pure and simple. Be truthful and Light will shine from you. Is there any price you would not give for that? And when you go deep within to see the truth, you will see that many of the false structures built by your mind or ego will be shattered. Those false structures falling down are what we usually call “a high price to pay.” I do not call it a high price. This is just poetry. “How much I have sacrificed to be on this spiritual path!” This is nonsense. If you are truly on the path, you are getting much more than you give up. What glory of the ego are you showing? It is something like glorifying the darkness. Go in the right direction and Light will shine. That will be new age consciousness: not just going from one stage to another but total transformation.

That Light is in everyone. Jesus said, “Seek ye the Divine first and everything else will be added unto you.” I am saying the same thing: see as it is and everything else will be unfolded. He said, “Everything else will be added unto you.” He did not say that you will be doing everything. As you unfold, everything comes back to you a thousand fold. It unfolds into perfection and that perfection is within you. Do something about it. In the grave you will not be able to do it. Are you going to meditate in the grave? Do it while you are living.

As a saint in India said long back, “Make use of every in-breath and out-breath.” Meaning: repeat the holy name in every breath, whichever name of God or Divine Mother you may be repeating. Repeating the holy name with each breath will make your life sublime. According to Vedic science, we are given a set number of breaths in each life. In ordinary karmic sequence this number is already set, which is why that saint said to use each breath in repeating the holy name. This will purify your life. It is immaterial whether you believe in reincarnation or not. At least you have this life, no? Use it. Unfold your Light first, then everything else shall be added unto you. There is nothing wrong with accomplishments, but building up false personality and avoiding the truth has no meaning. Prestige is just hollow pride. Why are you seeking prestige? If you are worthy, others will respect you.

Those who are on truth are not hungry after prestige. The truth makes them abide. Truth is not hurting; if you avoid resistance you will see that it is very loving. If truth was not loving, it would not be truth. Truth tells you that Light is within you, Perfection is within you—radiate it. And you can only do this when you renounce falsehood. Only then can you teach your children about truth. Only then can you truly love them, and your friends, neighbors, and co-disciples. Truth says: “Come ye who are heavy laden and find rest.”

Who but truth is going to tell you this?...