

Gently Applying versus Forcefully Applying

Daniel Band

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Seeker: Hey, Daniel, I need a bit of help here.

Sometimes when I discriminate, I think I “become” the objects. But I don’t become the objects, and I don’t become the self either. Why? Because I’m already the self plus objects. I don’t know, sometimes I feel like I’m forcing it a bit.

Enlightenment is simply gently applying the teachings to each and every circumstance, correct?

Daniel: Because ignorance is so hardwired, it is sometimes necessary to forcefully apply the teachings. The truth is also counter-intuitive, so it may feel fake as you apply your knowledge. Fake it till you make it, as Ramji says.

You are 100% correct, you don’t become the self, because you are already are the self, and though all objects are you, you remain totally free from all objects.

Yes, enlightenment is the hard and fast knowledge that “I am ordinary, ever-free, obvious, unconcerned, limitless awareness.” It is applying this knowledge to each and every circumstance so the mind rests in awareness as awareness and does not mistake itself to be a limited object. Enlightenment is when this knowledge is firm and you therefore don’t confuse yourself with the doer.

Your inquiry is perfect. Continue to gently apply the teachings and take it easy.