

# The Self Is the Teacher

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**Sundari:** Hello, Harris, it's wonderful to hear from you again and great to hear that your trip to Trout Lake is confirmed! We are both looking forward to meeting you. ☺

With regards to your question relating to teaching, it does not seem like you have much of a question, really. It seems like self-knowledge is doing the work. To answer, I would say that teaching in a "modern" context is no different from teaching in any age. It is simply a different delivery system for the same age-old and unchanging wisdom. James, like other qualified Vedanta teachers, is a vehicle for the knowledge and wields it according to the methodology of the tradition (*sampradaya*). He has taught those of us who serve ShiningWorld to do the same.

As for being taught, well, by exposing the mind to self-knowledge that is unfolded by a qualified Vedanta teacher, the knowledge itself, in other words, the self, is the real teacher. If you have no questions, no need to bother. The knowledge is working and when it does, using the logic of Vedanta, you can work things out for yourself. Everything dissolves in the light of self-knowledge.

The knowledge gives one the confidence to live right, which means cleaning up your act and living according to *dharma*, for peace of mind. Beyond that, life is pretty normal, and from the outside, to the uninitiated, a self-realised person would seem not much different to anyone else. Chop wood, carry water. ☺

I don't think I can contribute much of any use to you, Harris, I think you have most of it sorted out. Just keep on with your *sadhana*, exposing the mind to the scripture and applying the knowledge to your life. Be sure to write though if any questions come up that you need help with. We can have some great *satsangs* together in Trout Lake.

~ Much love to you from both of us, Sundari