

SPOTLIGHT ON ECK FAMILIES



Sri Harold Answers! GET LOVE BY GIVING LOVE



Q: *How do I help my child learn the basics of forming good, loving relationships with others? —Wanting the Best*

A: Dear Wanting the Best,

Over time, children pick up finer subtleties of getting along with others. If they have the good fortune of loving parents, they soon realize that as one gets love, he must also give it. Love is like water in that only so much of it fits into the glass. Before more can go in, some must be let out. So, if one doesn't keep giving out love, more can't come in.

People often wonder, How do I get God's love? You get more of it by giving of your own to others.

All in all, earth is a spiritual school. Designed and set up by God, it lets each of us, each Soul in this world, learn more about becoming godlike—becoming more like God.

The whole purpose of you, me, and everyone else is to become more godlike. It is our mission, or purpose, here. It's the key to happiness.



Celebrating a New Lifetime in ECK

By **ABBIE BURGESS**, Minnesota, USA

Our daughter's ECK Consecration Ceremony at the Temple of ECK was a milestone we had looked forward to since her birth. My uncle, who is an ECK cleric, officiated. While we know the officiator serves in the Master's stead, it was extra special to include Cordelia's great-uncle.

We were three generations of ECKists standing in the chapel that day. To me, that represented how solid ECKANKAR has become as a spiritual path in today's world. No longer is it a new religion. In many families, like ours, there are multiple generations of ECK chelas working together as Coworkers with the MAHANTA. There was even another ECK family at Cordelia's ceremony that included a grandmother, mother, and daughter.

Another connection: Cordelia was the second generation in my family to have her consecration at the Temple of ECK. Mine was thirty years earlier!

During the ceremony, our daughter, who was sixteen months old at the time, became quite active and wiggly. To punctuate the readings, she clapped

at things that sounded important to her. I never imagined a consecration could be so unique, but I learned that, just as every Soul is individual, every child responds differently to their ceremony.

Looking out at our friends and family who attended, I was filled with tremendous gratitude for the spiritual community gathered around us. Our daughter is surrounded by so much unconditional love and community support as she grows in ECK.

As ECK parents, my husband and I are deeply grateful for the opportunity, through the ECK Consecration Ceremony, to celebrate

our daughter's new lifetime with us. We have since added another child to our family, and we look forward to eventually planning his consecration as well. It, too, will be a treasured moment for us to affirm our commitment to raising our family within the ECK teachings.



Three generations of ECKists

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