Speech delivered in Kanchumarru, dated 27-9-98.
Jnana Yagna, Tapo Yagna, Dravya Yagna and Swaadhyaya Yagna- all these are different types of Yagnas (sacrifices). Preaching each other about God ie either you may preach others about Jnana or listen about it from others. It then becomes Jnana Yagna. If you make the best utilization of your money, it then becomes dravya yagna. Devotedly chanting the name of Lord is Tapo yagna. Reading spiritual books ie reading the books that aid in Self Realization is referred to as swaadhyaya yagna. All these are yagnas only. However the Lord has mentioned in the Gita: ‘Selfless work and Egoless work can be termed as yagna.’ The Lord’s words have to be taken as authentic.

Mere college education is not sufficient for blossoming of the mind. Spiritual book reading should be habituated.

The Lord said in the Gita: ‘If you do not doubt God’s Existence but have a living faith and firm resolve in His Existence, you will get liberated irrespective of the extent of your wickedness.’ The resolve should be firm without any doubt.

On listening to these sermons, though you may not attain Jnana (Self Realization), you will atleast understand the nature of ignorance. Whether it is family life or social life, until the body gets converted into a corpse, the entire life is based upon a single thought of ‘I am the body’. You won’t like losing the same. It is because you identify yourselves with it. Therefore you must listen. If you listen devotedly, you will understand atleast a few things.

Man doesn’t make the best utilization of his intellect. Discrimination is very important. The Lord mentioned in the Gita: ‘If the discrimination is lost, you will get ruined in every field.’
The mind always gets extroverted. Though you may like introverting it, it doesn’t go inside. If you inculcate love, devotion and faith in the indwelling God, He will drag your mind inside without allowing it to get extroverted. Without devotion and faith, the mind doesn’t stop getting extroverted. It pollutes itself and you keep cleansing it again and again.

Work and Knowledge are not conflicting. You must keep working and the mind should be centered upon God. The mind has to be trained thus. It is possible only when you do it willingly. You must understand how the mind works. You must observe how the mind reacts differently when relatives belonging to your mother and mother in law come. All of them are relatives only but God is the biggest relative. All these relatives are as false as the body. Therefore where ever your body may be, the mind should always contemplate upon God. Your mind will then start melting naturally.

The existence of the first thought ‘i’ is the root cause of the domination of the other thoughts. Unless the first thought gets annihilated, birth-death becomes inevitable. Your word and speech should not provoke the first thought. If you don’t care the first thought, it gets melted in its source automatically.

The question of ‘Who am I?’ is a spiritual practice. Self Realization is the answer for it. The first thought ‘i’ is your own problem. You have to solve it on your own. If you don’t get rid of it through effort, the sorrow will chase you in every birth.

Why did you get the physical body? You got it not merely for eating food or wearing clothes but to experience the body’s destiny (the fruit of past deeds). The destiny teaches you certain lessons. The destiny
may bring in certain favourable and certain unfavourable situations. However if your peace remains unperturbed in both the cases, you are the luckiest one. If you possess good education, remember that it is transient. If you possess great honour, remember that it is transient. When the body itself is not permanent, how can all these incidents become permanent? Then why do they arise? It is only to teach you certain lessons. One who learns the lessons is the fortunate one and who doesn’t learn the lessons is unfortunate. Everyone gets opportunities. One who makes the best utilization of the available opportunities is termed as intelligent and one who doesn’t utilize the God given opportunity is termed as foolish.

Don’t enquire about others but enquire from where this first thought ‘i’ originates. Only then you will get reformed.

First attain that which has to be attained ie Self Realization. Then the world will be greatly benefitted through you.

You must carry on the work as destined and also should not forget the goal (ie Self Realization). Work incessantly to attain the goal. You identify yourselves with the ego. Therefore you don’t make an effort to get rid of it. The entire Maya lies here. Until death, you keep revolving around the physical body. The physical body has a form whereas the ego is formless. The ego clings to some form or the other in each and every birth. You cannot get rid of it on your own. You can get released from it only by God’s Grace and not merely through your intellect.

Committing mistakes and rectifying them will not stop you from repeating them. The mistake will not be repeated only if you internally repent of having committed it.
Now you are listening devotedly and don’t have any other thoughts. But when you go back home, you get all the other thoughts. The reason behind it is that the first thought ‘i’ still exists. As long as the first thought ‘i’ prevails, you are bound to get the other thoughts which may be good or bad. Unless the first thought ‘i’ gets annihilated, you cannot sit on the throne of Self Knowledge and attain God Realization.

When Bhagavan was asked: ‘How should I lead my life?’, Bhagavan replied: ‘Live like a corpse.’ It implies that the physical body should prevail but the mind should cease to exist. Only then you will become a Jnani.

As per Chalam, Bhagavan’s preaching and Upanishad’s preaching can be differentiated thus: “Take two empty boxes. Put gold alone in one of the boxes and gold along with some stones in another box. Both the boxes now contain gold. However the gold can be taken immediately only from the box which has gold alone and not from the box which has both the gold and stones. Bhagavan’s preaching is similar to the first box which has gold only. Though the second box also contains gold (along with the stones), one has to filter it amongst the stones. The Upanishad’s preaching is similar to this.”