2017 Curriculum for Celebrating Eawaran's Life and Teachings

Each year at the end of October, a local group gathers at Ramagiri Ashram in Tomales, California, to celebrate Eawaran's life and teachings. This year we're inviting our worldwide community to join us, and we've created a curriculum with three modules to support you.

We're hoping that, collectively, we can all take some time to dive deep and reflect on the impact that Easwaran and his teachings have had on our lives. This experience is a wonderful complement to the BMCM's new strategic plan, intended to help us all gain a deeper understanding of Easwaran's teachings – so this is the perfect time to focus on this.

You could work through this curriculum at whatever pace works for you, and do it alone, with a friend, or with your satsang group.

Module One: Read and Study Easwaran's Article, "The Need for a Teacher"

Read Easwaran's article, "<u>The Need for a Teacher</u>". Choose one or more of these questions to reflect and discuss.

- 1. What strikes you about this article, and how does it relate to your own life?
- 2. Easwaran compares the spiritual teacher to a mountain climbing guide. Reflect on your life since you've been following Easwaran's teachings. In what ways have Easwaran's teachings guided you on your journey? Are there specific instances that come to mind?
- 3. Easwaran says that after his granny was no longer in the body, he discovered that he could still turn to her for guidance and find answers to his questions. Does this ring true for you? How do you turn to Easwaran's teachings for answers?

Try an experiment. For the next few days, consciously turn to Easwaran's teachings for answers when you need to make decisions, handle delicate interactions, or find more patience in the moment. Note any thoughts or insights you might gain from this experiment.

Each of us will have our own way of turning to Easwaran's teachings for answers. This is an individual matter. Some examples might be saying the mantram; looking at Easwaran's picture and expressing an inner prayer; reading his books or watching his talks; silently asking the teacher within you for guidance; or meditating on a particular passage.