

A composite image featuring two faces. The left face is tinted blue and has a white tilak on its forehead. The right face is tinted green and has a black bindi on its forehead. The background is a dark, cloudy sky with a yellow crescent moon and two white stars. The text 'Lack of sensitivity' is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

# Lack of sensitivity

[iskcon-desire-tree.com](http://iskcon-desire-tree.com)

A week after their daughter Sita was born, Laxmi and Krsnadas were completely exhausted. Each night their new-born daughter, Sita, kept waking them up. Laxmi's delivery had been a difficult one and she was taking painkillers. She could barely walk. After five days of staying home to help her, Krsnadas went back to the temple. Laxmi seemed to be getting better.





While Krsnadas was away Laxmi ran out of pain pills. Instead of calling Krsnadas at the temple, she asked one of the brothers of Krsnadas, who was visiting, to purchase more. Krsnadas's brother, however, did not return with the pills. Consequently, she spent the whole day in pain, taking care of the new-born.

Krsnadas had no idea that her day had been so awful. When he returned home she was very upset. Krsnadas misinterpreted the cause of her distress and thought she was blaming him.

A woman on the left, wearing a black and white patterned sari with a gold necklace and bangles, is gesturing with her hands as if speaking. A man on the right, wearing a white shirt and dark trousers with a shoulder bag, is looking at her. A speech bubble is positioned between them, containing text.


"I've been in pain all day. I ran out of pills."

A woman with dark hair, wearing a black and gold sari, is seated in a red upholstered chair. She is looking towards a man who is standing in a doorway. The man is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and dark trousers. The doorway is decorated with orange and white marigold garlands. On the wall behind the woman is a framed picture of a still life with a vase and a bowl. A small table with a glowing lamp is visible in the foreground.

I've  
been stranded  
in bed and  
nobody cared!


A man with dark hair and a white dot on his forehead, wearing a white button-down shirt, is gesturing with his right hand. A speech bubble is positioned to his left, containing the text "Why didn't you call me?". The background is a plain, light-colored wall with a door frame visible on the right.

Why didn't you  
call me?

A woman with dark hair and a bindi is seated on a train. She is wearing a black top and a yellow shawl. She has a thoughtful expression. A speech bubble is overlaid on the image. The background shows the red patterned interior of a train carriage.

I asked your brother,  
but he forgot! I've  
been waiting for him  
to return all day.




A man in a white shirt sits on the left, looking towards a woman on the right. The woman is wearing a black and gold sari and has her hand to her chest, appearing distressed. A speech bubble above her contains the text: "What am I supposed to do? I can barely walk. I feel so deserted!".

What am I  
supposed to  
do? I can barely  
walk. I feel so  
deserted!

At this point Krsnadas exploded. His fuse was also very short that day. He was angry that she hadn't called him.

Krsnadas was furious that she was blaming him when he didn't even know that she was in pain. After exchanging a few harsh words, Krsnadas headed for the door. He was tired, irritable, and had heard enough. Both of them had reached their limits. Then something started to happen that changed Krsnadas's life.!



A woman with dark hair in a braid, wearing a black top and a patterned sari, is reaching out to touch the arm of a man in a white shirt. She has a pleading expression. A speech bubble above her contains text. The man is looking away from her.


**"Stop! Please don't leave. This is when I need you the most. I'm in pain. I haven't slept in days. Please listen to me." Krsnadas stopped for a moment to listen.**

“Krsna Das, you’re a fair weather friend!  
As soon as I’m sweet, loving Laxmi  
you are here for me, but as soon as I’m  
not, you walk right out that door.”





Then she paused, and her eyes filled up with tears, her tone shifted.



"Right now I'm in pain. I have nothing to give, this is when I need you the most. Please come over here and hold me. You don't have to say anything. Please don't go."



Thank you very  
much for not  
leaving me.

“At that moment I started to realise the real meaning of love- unconditional love. I had always thought of myself as a loving person. But she was right. I had been a fair-weather friend. As long as she was happy and nice, I loved back. But if she was unhappy or upset, I would feel blamed and then argue or distance myself.

That day for the first time, I didn't leave her. I stayed and it felt great. I succeeded in giving to her when she really needed me. This felt like real love. Caring for another person. Trusting in our love. Being there at her hour of need. I marveled at how easy it was for me to support her when I was shown the way.

How had I missed this ? She just needed me to go over and hold her. Another woman would have instinctively known what Laxmi needed but as a man, I didn't know that touching, holding and listening were so important to her. By recognizing these differences I began to learn a new way of relating to my wife. I would have never believed we could resolve conflict so easily.

In my previous relationships, I had become indifferent and unloving at difficult times, simply because I didn't know what else to do. As a result, my first marriage had been very painful and difficult. This incident with Laxmi revealed to me how I could change this pattern. By learning in very practical and specific terms about how men and women are different, I suddenly began to realise that my marriage did not need to be such a struggle. With this new awareness of our differences Laxmi and I were able to improve dramatically our communication and enjoy our life together in Krsna consciousness.”