

# **Methods of practice**

*Anthology of lectures*

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## CHAPTER 11

# Balance Between Effort and Letting Go

In a world driven by speed and constant stimulation, sitting still can feel almost unnatural. Yet it's in this quiet pause that awareness begins to unfold. Mindful sitting isn't about escaping thoughts or reaching a special state — it's about noticing what is already here. The body breathes, the mind moves, sensations arise and pass. Through gentle attention, we rediscover a simple balance between activity and rest.

Over time, this practice builds a quiet strength. We learn to respond instead of react, to listen without rushing to fill the silence. The small act of sitting with presence — even for a few minutes — becomes a daily reminder that clarity doesn't come from doing more, but from seeing more clearly.

Stillness doesn't remove the challenges of life; it gives us space to meet them. When we practice awareness in this way, attention ripples into everything we do — walking, speaking, working, resting. The power of stillness is not withdrawal, but participation with full presence.