



FOR OUR HINDU FRIENDS...





Got a secret?

For many, many people in the world, it's still a secret that they are created in God's image, that they can have life, and life eternal through Jesus Christ, and they can have true peace and hope.

Join us as we spend some time specifically praying for the Hindus in the world, that this "secret" will be revealed to them!

These questions are actually not easy to answer. You see, Hinduism is very complicated. There are so many gods, ideas and different ways to worship that it's quite difficult to explain. The word "Hinduism" actually means a group of people with many different beliefs and traditions and ways of worshipping their own gods. It's so confusing it can even hard to say exactly who is a Hindu. In general though, when we say, "Hindu" we mean a religion that started in India, which is one of the largest religions in the world.

What is Hinduism? Who is hindu?

About 15 percent of the world are Hindu. Most people are Hindu not because they really believe or worship any special god, but because they were born into a Hindu family.

No one person started Hinduism, but there were many saints and famous people and writers who help create this religion. Although there are many holy books in Hindu, there is no main book that they use like we do the Bible. It is a very, very old religion. Some of it, even before there was writing! Many traditions and understanding keep changing with time, even to today. There are 1.1 billion Hindus in the world, 2.3 billion Christians, and 1.9 billion Muslims.

TOP 5 COUNTRIES WITH HINDUS: 95% of all Hindus in the world live in INDIA.



INDIA 966 million (80%)

NEPAL 22 million (81%)

BANGLADESH 16 million (10%)

INDONESIA 4.5 million (1.7%)

PAKISTAN 3.4 million (1.6%)





For over 20 years (who you know anyone who is that old?) a few prayer booklets were made to help encourage Christians all over the world to pray for Hindus. But a few years ago, we got really serious and wanted to help the church worldwide to get praying again for Hindus.

If you've got ideas for the future we'd love to hear from you. Please visit us at www.pray15days.org and email us at: info@pray15days.org

Let's read John17:1-3 (to the right) aloud together...

Jesus said these words just before he went to die on the Cross for us all. He did it so every person on earth might come to know him and receive his everlasting life and love.

We know God has a special heart for children, and believe YOUR prayers are very important!
Thank you for joining us. Let's get started!

After Jesus finished saying this, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your Son, so that the son may give glory to you. For you gave him authority over all people, so that he might give eternal life to all those you gave him. And eternal life means to know you, the only true God, and to know Jesus Christ, whom you sent.

Praying for Hindus

"What a huge harvest!" Jesus said to his disciples. "How few workers!" On your knees and pray for harvest hands! (The Message translation)

Hindus are the second largest religious group in the world who don't know the Good News about Jesus. Most Hindus still live without anyone helping them understand this Good News.

We could explain it like this...

If you could put 100 Christian workers into one room, you'd find only two work to reach out to Hindus. Wow that's not very many! How will they hear? How does that make you feel?

Now read out loud Luke 4:17-19.

Why not write it out and make it into a colorful poster to put up in your home somewhere?

This will be an important verse to keep reading and believing as you pray these next 15 days. This verse is especially good for Hindus as many of them are poor and needing good news, hope and healing.

Make sure you read the Bible verses each day. This will help you grow in faith and fuel your prayer effort. We hope this prayer booklet will help inspire you to pray and catch Gods BIG HEART for the Hindi peoples of the world.

Remember to ask the Holy Spirit to breathe into you his heartfelt prayers. *Oh, and have fun too!*





ROBBEDI

Have you ever had anything stolen from you? It makes you feel very sad.

Right in the middle of the day, as Alka is walking with her children to the school near her house, robbers attack her! A robber grabs the gold jewelry on her neck and arms. Then, he rides away. What an awful experience! It makes Alka and her children very afraid...just to walk to school!

This happens to many women in India. Just like Alka, they are attacked. Maybe for money. Maybe for jewelry. Sometime they just attack the body, hurting women in many painful ways.

Interestingly, women have an important part in the Hindu religion. They clean and take care of the many idols. They are responsible for performing many religious <u>rituals</u> in the house. Hindus worship many goddesses. In fact, one is even the Mother Goddess. Men are responsible to take care of and protect the women.

Most women are valued only as a mother, a wife, or a daughter to a man, not as a woman. It is getting better today, but there are still some very difficult challenges. The caste system makes it almost impossible to improve their lives. However, more laws are being made to help make life safer for women. But, like Alka, it's still is dangerous for many, many ordinary women to walk down a street. They are still afraid. There is good news, though. Alka found a very special group called a <u>Satsang</u>. Here, she meets with other women and hears about Jesus. She hears about how important and valuable women are to God.

What do you think this girl is feeling?

After the robber, Alka went to the Satsang, and was encouraged and supported. She is not so afraid, now. She knows her Heavenly Father is watching and will care for her, no matter what happens.



LET'S READ LUKE 18:1-8

Let's pray for the many, many Hindu women who are hurt by men. Let's pray the police will help them when they need it and not ignore them.

LET'S READ JOHN 14:27

Let's pray for Hindu women who are need spiritual comfort. Let's pray for them! Let's pray they will find that amazing peace in Christ Jesus!

LET'S READ TITUS 2:6-8

Let's pray for the Hindu men. That they will treat women with respect and care.

Let's pray for Christian men to be a good example of this in their communities.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

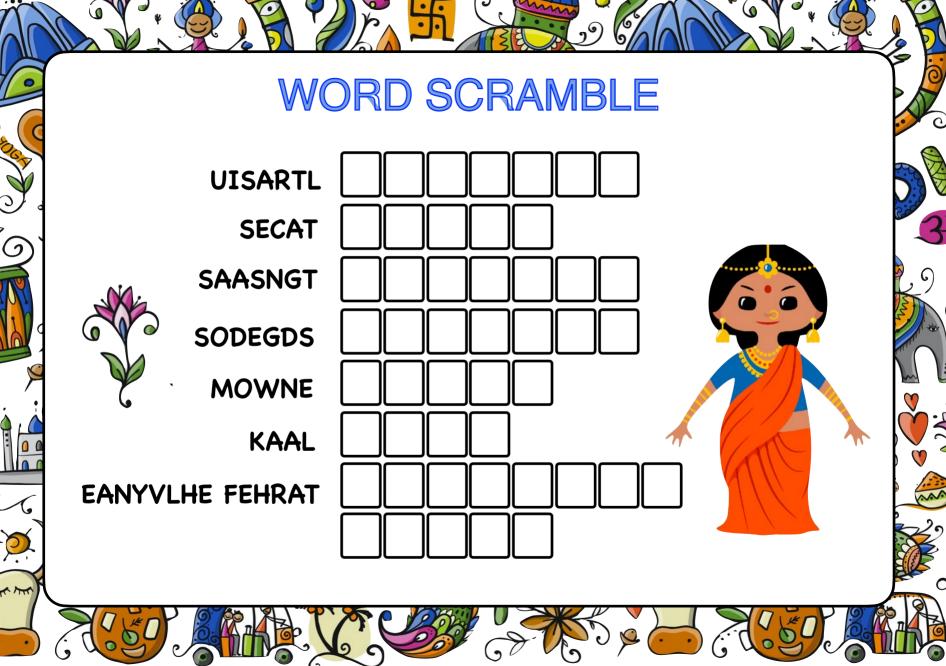
Talk about the caste system in India. How is this different from the Christian way of life, all people of the world are God's children. Do you ever think you are more valuable than someone else?



NEW WORDS TO LEARN

- RITUALS
- CASTE
- SATSANG







AMAZING GOD! Have you ever seen God move in a supernatural way?

For many people in other lands, it's guite common!



God is moving in powerful ways among the Hindu people. He wants them to know how they can have full, meaningful lives! It's amazing!!

If you ask many believers how they hear of Jesus, they will not tell you they grew up in the church. They will not tell you a missionary shared the Good News with them.

Many, many will tell you God healed them of a serious sickness. Many were about to die, but God touched them and they are alive today! They know God healed them! Others will tell you they were bothered by evil spirits, but Jesus completely delivered them! Some people think this is unbelievable or weird, but it is actually quite common in this area of the world. For these new believers, all they know is they are healed and FREE in Jesus' name! They are so HAPPY and are now telling others how amazing God's love and power is. How wonderful!

Here's just one example...

In a small farming village, a young woman who did not grow up in a church, or even know any Christians is now teaching Sunday School. Not long ago, she was involved in witchcraft. You can't imagine...her skin turned black. Her eyes were actually red!! She was tormented by evil spirits. She got worse and worse. Her family took her to many witchdoctors, but she only got worse. No priests in the temples could help her. Not even the medical doctors could help her.

One day, a friend invited her to a prayer meeting. Do you know what happened? What do you think? If you guessed she was set free, you're absolutely RIGHT!! You know what happened after that? Because they saw His great power with their own eyes, her whole FAMILY decided to follow Jesus! It's very similar to how things were back in the early days of the church!



LET'S READ ACTS 3:4-8

See how the same thing was happening then? See how God is truly the same vesterday, today and tomorrow?

LET'S READ EPHESIANS 1:17-21

Let's pray...for those Hindus who have been touched by God and believe in Him to grow strong in their faith.

LET'S READ TIMOTHY 2:3-5

Let's pray...for Hindu people to admit there is only ONE God and Savior. That they would trust Jesus Christ as the Son of God not just another powerful guru or teacher.

LET'S READ EPHESIANS 6:10-12

Let's pray...for freedom and deliverance from evil spirits, idol worship, black magic, and blood sacrifice.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

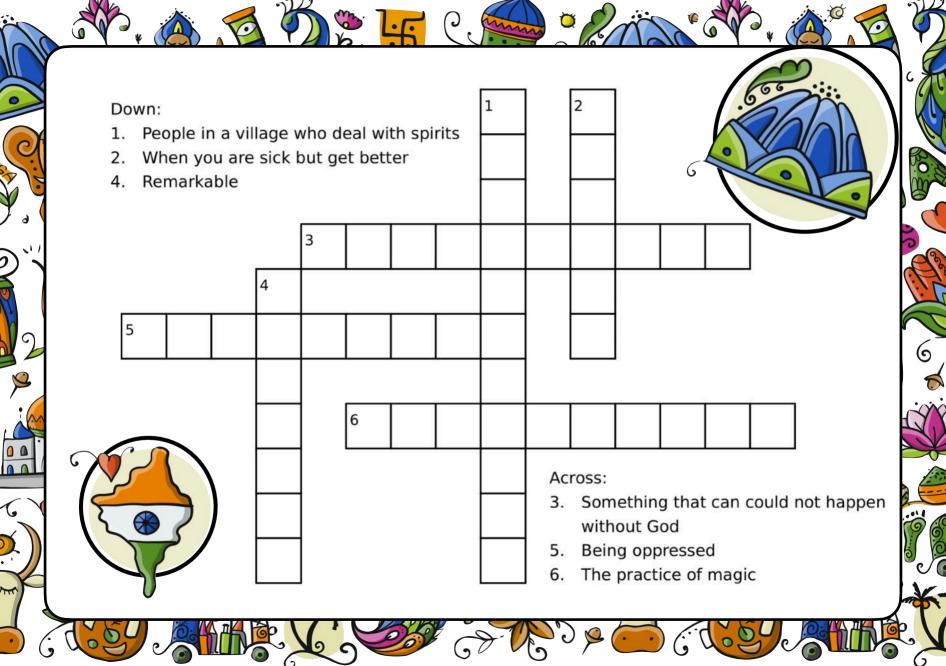
Why do you think so many people in countries like India experience God's great power and healing?

Do you know anyone around you who has NEW WORDS TO LEARN been healed or experienced God in a • powerful way?

Maybe you can ask around...you probably do!

- **WITCHCRAFT**
- TORMENTED
 - WITCHDOCTOR







INDIAN MUSIC!

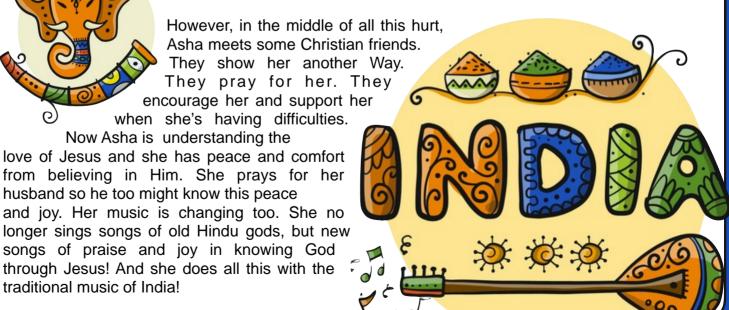


Indians love their music! It is very unique and different than music you may be used to. Like most old cultures, their music talks a lot about their history and religion. Hindu music is very emotional. Many times it is made to sound like some god's voice, getting the worshippers more and more excited.

Asha and her husband just moved into a new city. She is a traditional musician and hopes to

find a job performing or teaching music. But she has a sad life. She and her husband argue and fight a lot. Many times they live apart because they are so

angry with each other.





LET'S READ PSALM 96:1-3

In Hindu tradition, the first musicians were divine and so to use their instruments to worship them is a deeply spiritual practice.

Let's pray... for musicians today to encounter Christ as they play, and to sing a new song?

LET'S READ PSALM 33

Let's pray...that Christians in India will use music to reflect the voice of Christ, to encourage other believers to greater spiritual growth and to attract Hindus who seek a new song to sing

LET'S READ REVELATION 5:9

Let's pray... a new song will be sung by people from every tribe and language and nation at the throne of God. Pray for those from Hindu tribes to join this future choir.



Fill in the Blanks 1. Christians worship one God. Hindus worship _____ gods. 2. Very old cultural music talks a lot about _____ and _____. 3. Hindi music is very _____.

4. Sometimes, their music sounds like a god's _____

6. She wants her husband to know God's and

5. Asha's friends show her another _____.



THE EVIL

What is superstition? Are you superstitious at all? How? Some people wear crosses around their necks. When could that be superstitious?

What causes evil and what does the Bible teach us to do about it?

It's not very clear when the belief of evil eye began in Hinduism. The idea isn't mentioned in Hindu scriptures. What is clear is that this superstition - that a person can

harm, or even kill, another person found in many folk religions believed in ancient Greece and unique to Hindus.

The evil eye is said to be given is also sometimes called the holds that an angry or hateful looking at someone, or Hindus believe the ways to ward certain beads and bracelets, lucky marks on the face, hand gestures, spells, chillies and wave them around.

by a person who is jealous, so it "envious eye." The superstition person can make a curse by something, with jealousy or envy. off the evil eye include wearing charms, eyeliner and other painted and sayings. Some even use foods like

by giving them the evil eye - is around the world. It was

Rome. It is by no means

All over the world people, including Hindus, are afraid of evil and what causes it.





LET'S READ 2TIM 1:7 EPS 6:10-20 PROVERBS 3:5-7 1JOHN 4:18

The Bible tells us to trust in the Lord in everything. Love is the answer to fear. A spiritual battle is going on but our protection is the Lord himself.

LET'S PRAY

Here's a fun and creative way to pray today...

Stand in a circle.

Everyone mimes reaching into the circle with one hand. Imagine you are taking grabbing hold of fear. Now mime action throwing it out of the circle. Now mime the opposite and throw into the circle the opposite of fear which in the Bible is love, trusting in God.

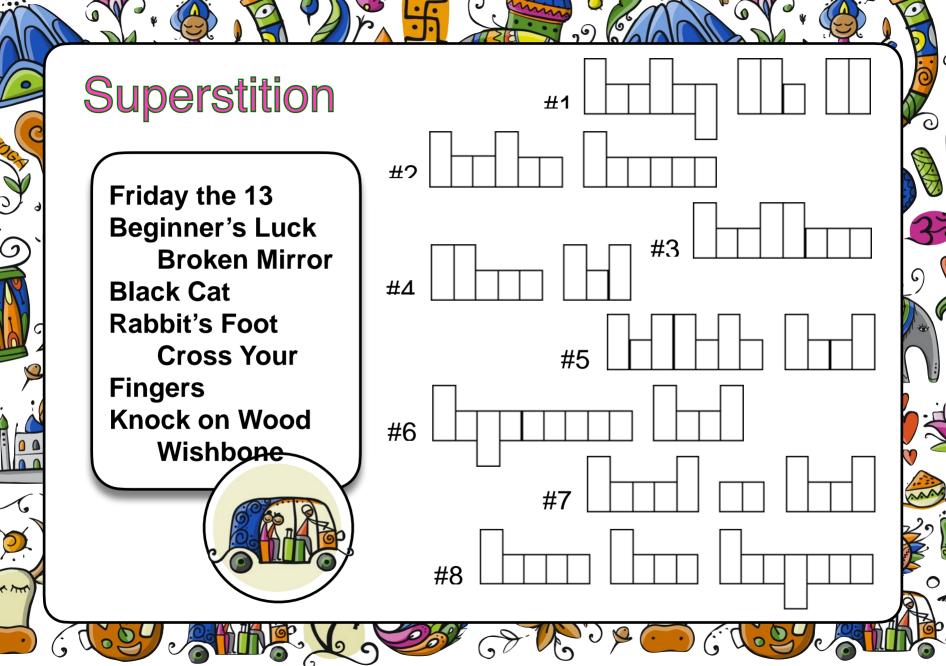


* Pray for Hindus to be set free from fear and experience the love and truth that comes from trusting in Jesus as savior.

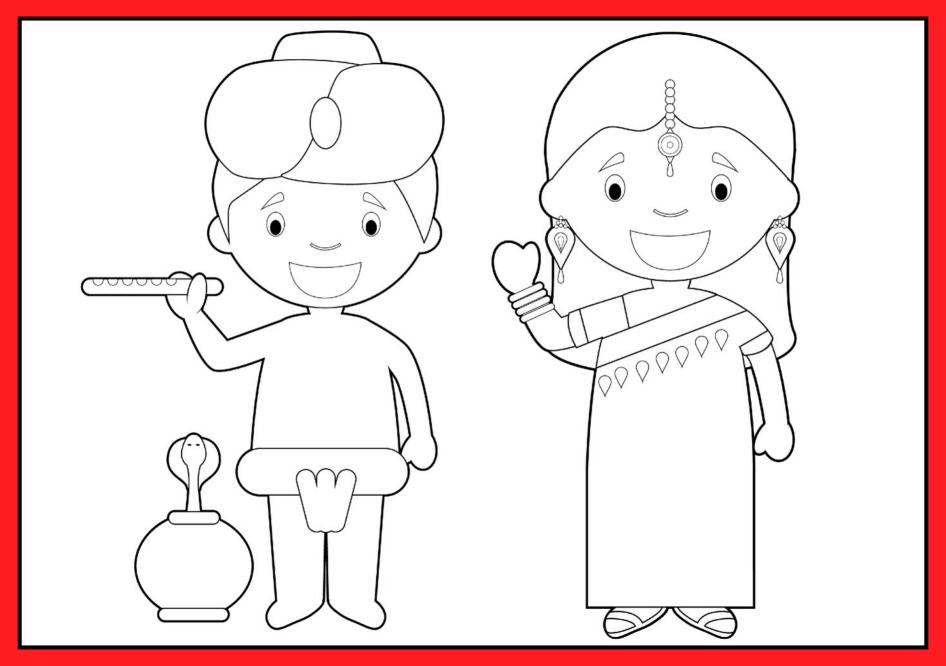
NEW WORDS TO LEARN

- SUPERSTITIOUS
- ENVIOUS
- GESTURE













What is your favorite holiday? Why?

India has many, many holidays but one of the most famous is called Diwali. It lasts 5 whole days! The word Diwali actually comes from a longer word called Deepavali which means "a row of lamps". Can you think why and what it could be all about?

<u>Diwali</u> is probably the most popular of the many, many Hindu festivals and holy days each year. It is a celebration of light conquering darkness: good conquering over evil. Diwali has also become an important time for the women to give their homes a good clean and they do this before the festival begins.

Diwali starts on November 13. The first day of the festival has a special name called <u>Dhanteras</u>. Dhan means, "rich" and "teras" means 13. On Dhanteras, Hindu woman love to go out shopping with their friends and families, specifically to shop for things made from different metals, including gold and silver, kitchen utensils, cars, and other precious items.

They believe that by doing this they will bring blessing, wealth and security to the family for the year ahead. Some families will also perform special ceremonies in the hope of keeping death away from their loved ones in the following year.

LET'S READ JOHN 8:12

Let's pray...for Hindus beginning to celebrate Diwali, that they will discover the Light of the World.

LET'S READ MATTHEW 6:19-21

Let's pray... that Hindus understand the buying things on earth does not help us grow closer to God or help us "store up or treasures in heaven".

LET'S READ MARK 4:21-22

Let' pray...for believers in Hindu communities to be brave to share the love and Good News of Jesus with their neighbors.

LET'S GO

Find a candle and a shiny object of metal.

- As you light the candle pray that Hindus would discover Jesus who is 'the light of the world'.
- Hold the shiny metal object in your hands and pray for Hindu woman to discover that true wealth is knowing Jesus.
- Pray for believers in Hindu communities to be bold to share the love and Good News of Jesus with their neighbors.

(Another creative prayer idea would be to take a duster and polish and clean some area of your home. As you do so pray that Hindus would discover that Jesus is the one who truly can cleanse us from our selfishness and mistakes and give us a brand-new life)



Diwali Word Puzzle

```
ZH FBJPI WTWFVHBE
PWZBSYJVJZHCWDB
YETZHOSHOPPINGP
EAMIFNQCHHFXXBP
KLNKITCHENXQFIS
DINBLESSINGLVUL
XHCLIGHTFSOYTTI
ZDHANTERASOVUAS
QXLYMINKPTPQGGN
FCGNI NAELCOROBE
REKVWHMYTIRUCES
  OURPZOJJ
NKOMCDIPCEFEYDU
  HXTIXQTGOSZUV
F G N L X X R L O O W M Z F G
```

DHANTERAS CLEANING SHOPPING KITCHEN **UTSENSILS** BLESSING WEALTH SECURITY LIGHT 2



DEVALI IS FAMILY TIME!

When do you get holidays from school?

Does your family get together to celebrate and enjoy good food?

What else do you enjoy when your family gets together?

There is no school before, during and after Diwali. And for grown-ups working away from home they are allowed to take a holiday and return home to be with the rest of their families. Families enjoy big reunion parties and you can be sure there will be plenty of food and feasts. Grandparents love cooking for their children and grandchildren.

Today, many Hindus will celebrate something called Naraka Chaturdashi, or Choti Diwali. It just means "small Divali". In Hindu tradition they remember when the god Krishna defeated the demon Narakasura who had taken control of all the kingdoms on earth.

After lavish meals families will light clay lamps called diyas and explode firecrackers. Hindu woman will often busy themselves sitting together on the floors of their homes creating rangoli. Rangoli are amazing colorful patterns made with different colored ground rice that looks like sand. Some of these patterns are special within a family and passed from parent to child. These designs are thought to bring luck and are specially placed welcome the many visitors who will visit each other's homes during the Diwali celebrations.





LET'S READ MATTHEW 4:1-17

Let's pray...for Hindus so that they may know Jesus as the one who came to bring light into the darkness.

LET'S READ 1 PETER 3:15

Can you put into your own words what 1 Peter 3:15 is saying to us all?

Let's pray...for Hindus who become Christians to be encouraged and given the courage to go home and spread the gospel boldly.

LET'S GO!

Find a scarf or a piece of cloth that could be used as a blindfold. Someone put the blindfold on and stand in the middle of your group or family. If there's only two of you then one person puts it on. The others place a hand on the blindfolded person. If you can find a blindfold for each person then everyone puts one on and finds their own space in the room.

- * Pray for Jesus to open the spiritual eyes of Hindus to see Jesus as the only turn God who has power and wants everyone to worship only Him.
- * Pray for Hindus that they will learn of the One who came to bring light into the darkness.

Find a cake or some fruit and put them on a plate in front of you. Anything special to eat will do. Each person who wants to pray out loud does so and then can eat something small. Keep repeating.

*Pray for Hindu women as they get up early and work hard to prepare much food will come to know Jesus as the One who wants to bless them and meet them.



Unscramble the Words

1.	esasdnrk	
2.	itas	
3.	kmlisiha	
4.	rkcrefsiearc	
5.	lesbl	
6.	etalvisf	
7.	ydsa	
8.	wrljeey	
9.	arvna	
10.	doof	
11.	ram	
12.	ghtli	



Bells and smells

What are sounds that you associate with holidays? What are some of your favorite smells during holidays? Are most of these smells associated with food?

During Diwali many children love to fly kites.

From street corners DJs play loud music. Bells are rung by the queuing up outside temples and there always is the delicious smell of food! In the evening women love to dress in beautiful saris and put on their best jewelry. All day and night kids set off loud firecrackers. It's fun and it's noisy.

Diwali Day 3 is the most important day of the joyfully celebrate the victory of good over evil, lights are strung up adding to the traditional clay homes.

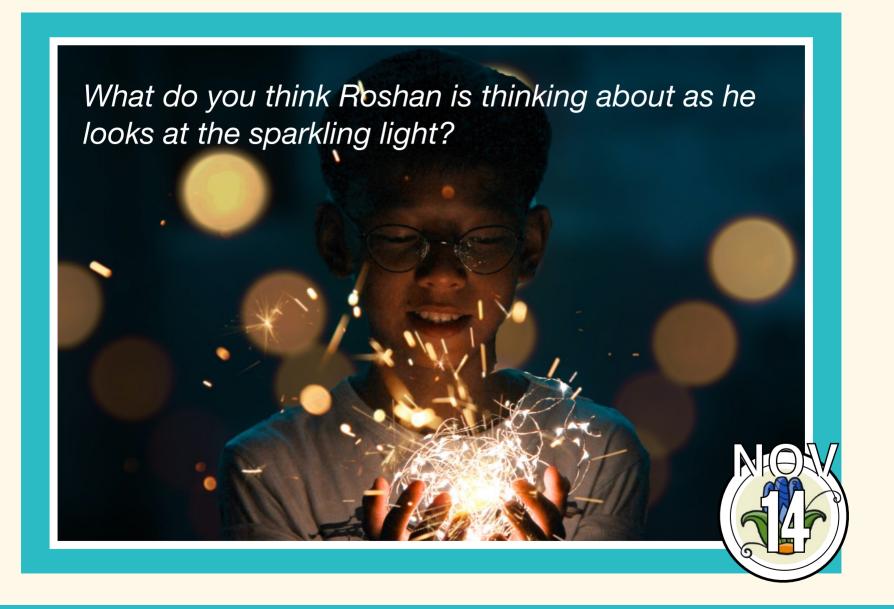
Festival. Hindus all over the world will light over darkness. After dark lots of lamps or *dyas*, which are all over peoples

worshippers

Some have fun making a pathway with the lights, like a runway, and the whole idea is to welcome *Lakshimi*, the wealth goddess, to the family home, to bless and make rich. Others make this light pathway to remember the return of King Ram, who rescued his wife Sita from the demon god Ravan.

Sita is very honored among Hindu women.





LET'S READ 1 PETER 2:9

Let's pray... that Hindu women can experience what it means to become part of the body of Christ!

LET'S READ JOHN 8:12

Let's pray... that one day Hindus will experience Jesus as the light of the world.

LET'S READ MATTHEW 5:15

Let's pray...that God's love for the Hindu people will be like a lamp stand, shining light into the darkness for all to encounter.

LET'S GO

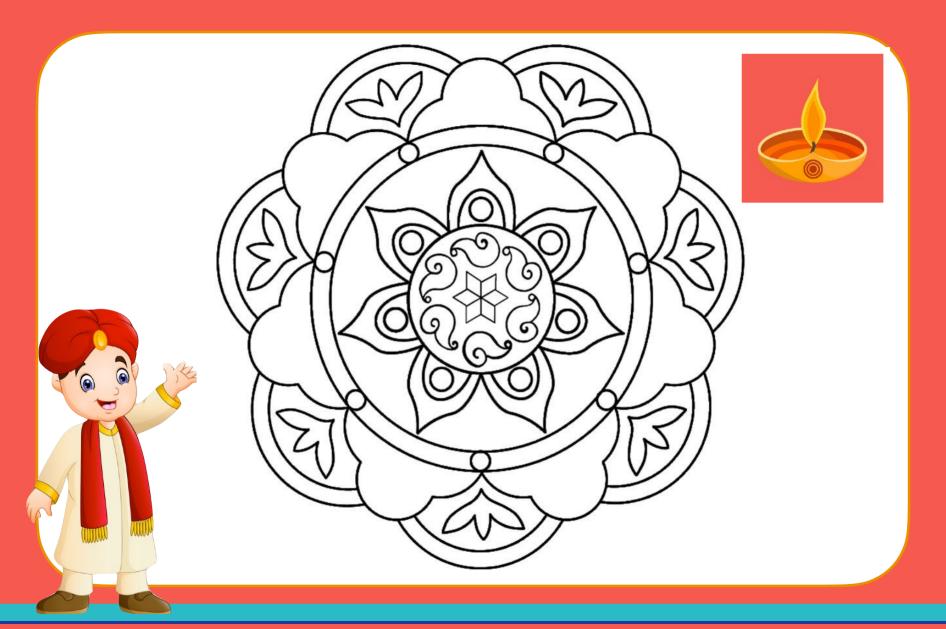
It's time to put on some loud music and pray noisily! if you have enough candles or tea lights in your home why not make a 'pathway of light' with them. Then walk down your path and welcome Jesus into your life and home. If you don't have these then find a partner and make an archway. Others in your family can then enter through your archway.

Make a kite and hang it up in your house

Pray for Hindus to welcome Jesus and open the door to him.

Pray for Hindu children to find Jesus as their "way, truth and life"







God as Deliverer

What makes girls special? What makes boys special?

When we celebrate Christmas, Jesus in the manger reminds us that God came to earth as a baby to our Savior.

On the fourth day of Diwali, Hindu <u>devotees</u> of the god Krishna, will recall the story of how Krishna held up a mountain for eight days to protect a holy city on the mountain from deadly rains sent by another angry god. Many children and adults will dress up like the god, Krishna. Women cook 56 different <u>vegetarian</u> food items which are offered to lord Krishna in the evening. This celebration recognizes Krishna as the deliverer.

Many Hindu women will feel they need a deliverer. In traditional Hindu culture, as woman will move in with her husband's family after marriage. It is not uncommon to have a mother and father, along with all of their sons and son's wives living under the same roof. This is called a Hindu Undivided Family.

Chitra married at a very young age and moved into her husband's parents home. Coming from a poor family, Chitra had a small <u>dowry</u> and her mother-in-law often reminds her that she is the lowest person in their family. Chitra just gave birth to their second daughter, and without a son, she is not able to bring a valued male child for her family. She is afraid, every day, that she may be rejected from her new family and put out on the street, homeless, with her young daughters.



LET'S READ JOHN 4:4-26

Let's pray... for Hindu women to come to Jesus, the true Deliverer, who promised living water to the woman at the well.

LET'S READ PSALM 40

Let's pray...for Hindu men, who also need a Savior, to lead their families to the true Deliverer, Jesus.

LET'S READ GALATIANS 3:27-29

Let' pray....that women will be equally valued in Hindu society, as created by God and loved by Him.

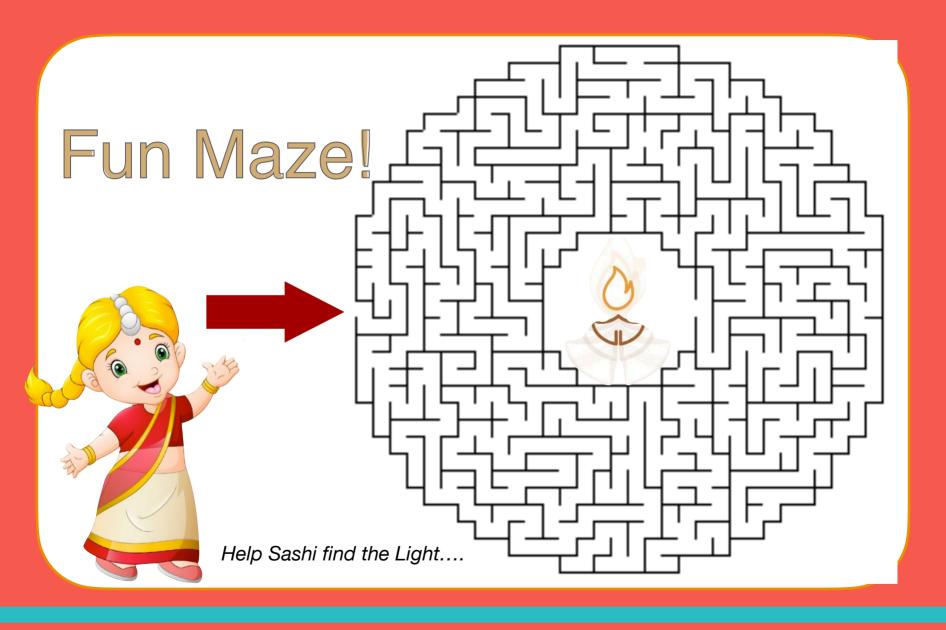
LET'S GO

Make a paper chain out of strips of paper. For the next week, each time you remember to pray tear off one of the paper links and ask God to set Hindu men and women free! Continue until the paper chain is finished.

NEW WORDS TO LEARN

- DEVOTEES
- VEGETARIAN
- DOWRY







Dooj... Celebrating Brothers and Sisters

What is the best gift you ever got? What is the best gift you ever gave?

The last day of the five-day festival of Dewali is called Bahai Dooj. "Bhai" means brother and "Dooj" refers to the second day after the new moon, when it is celebrated.

Most Hindu festivals emphasize the importance of family and Bhai Dooj especially focuses on the relationship between a brother and sister. This tradition likely started by comparing stories showing the love and support given to Hindu gods by their sisters.

On Bhai Dooj, Hindu woman will pray for the long and happy lives of their brothers. They will often show their love for each other with a meals and gifts. Brother may be sent out to bring their sisters home if they live elsewhere. Sometimes newly married couples are both invited to the wife's family home for a celebration. Sisters will pray for the long life of their brothers and for protection in the coming year. In return, brothers often give their sisters gifts.

Often, if a Hindu woman struggles with her in-laws, like Chitra in yesterday's story, after her parents die her brother will become her only close helper if she needs security or shelter.



LET'S READ HEBREWS 2:10-12

Let's pray...for Hindu families, that they will turn to Christ as a whole family, which strengthens the faith of each member and provides a strong witness of God's heart for family.

LET'S READ 1 THESSALONIANS 1:4-5

Let's pray...for Hindu women, that they will see the love that Jesus displayed as a brother towards the many sisters in his life and be drawn to receive Him into their hearts.

LET'S THINK AND DISCUSS

Many families in India today are having only one child. This means no brothers or sisters. How do you think they celebrate Bhai Dooj?

Families with many children do have a love for each other. When do you have family gatherings?

Do you pray for your brothers and sisters?

If you have a sister or brother, then on a piece of paper, write one thing you appreciate about them. Now give the paper to them.

If you don't have then think of a close friend instead and write to them









In debt to the gods

What does your name mean? Why were you named that? If you don't know, it might be a good time to ask!

Jesus welcomed the children to come freely and sit on his lap.



This Hindu grandmother surprised her grandson with the new idol of Krishna in their home. How might you pray for them?

Jaya is crying. Her young daughter is in the hospital and very sick. She is worried the doctors cannot help her daughter. Then Jaya thinks of a way! "I'll pray to one of our family gods," she says to herself. "Please, save my little girl. If you do, I will visit the temple every week to pray," she pleads to the cold, still idol in front of her.

Jaya's daughter recovers. A few years go by and Jaya forgets about her promise to the gods. One day she remembers and becomes very afraid. The gods might punish her or someone else in her family for not keeping her promise to the gods. Jaya believes you don't get something from a god for free. You always have to give them something, and many Hindus are afraid they have not given enough. They always owe a debt to the gods that they cannot pay. When they come to know Jesus, and that Salvation is a free Gift from God, they are so very relieved and thankful. They learn The True God of Heaven loves them...no strings attached.

LET'S READ GALATIANS 5:1

The Bible talks a lot about the freedom that is in Christ. Pray for Hindus who are held in fear by their belief, that they would from fear by believing in Jesus.

LET'S READ ROMANS 8:1-2

Let's pray...Hindus would know the love of God and the freedom from sin and death through Jesus.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

How do you feel when someone gives you a gift for no other reason than they love you?

How do you feel when others want something from you but you are not able to give it?

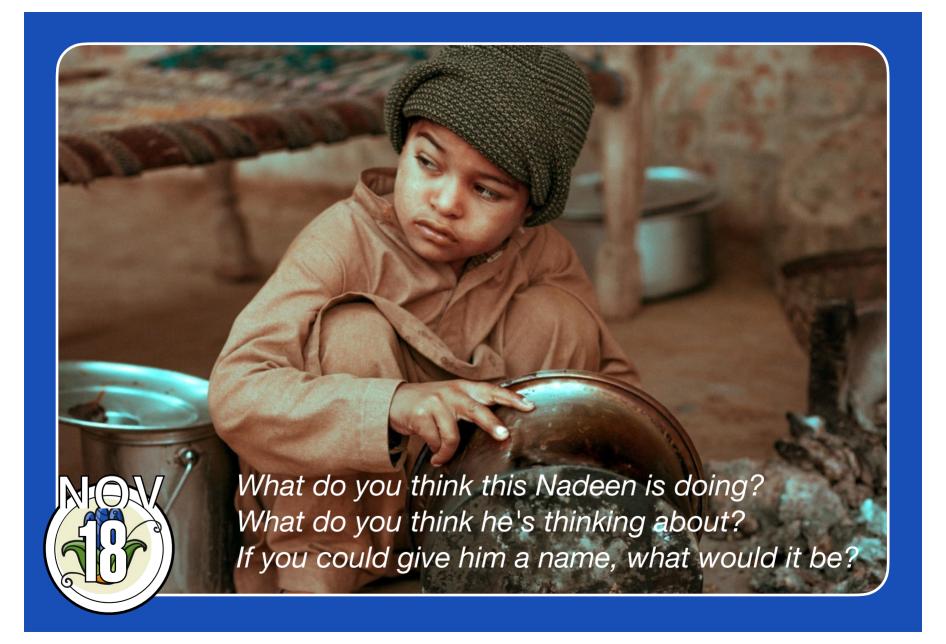
How about this...

Get some wrapping paper or paper you can decorate with colors, and wrap up a simple gift such as a piece of candy, a picture you draw, or maybe some flowers.

Now give this gift to your mom or dad for no reason, except you love them!









What does your name mean? Why were you named that? If you don't know, it might be a good time to ask!

In Nepal, the Hindu tradition is on the 11th day after a child is born they conduct a very important religious ceremony to announce the child's name. Parents invite their families and their community and ask the gods to bless and protect the child as it grows.

It is very important that the ceremony takes place on the 11th day. To miss this day would make the family have trouble with the gods. It is not easy to get the ceremony done by a Hindu Priest if you miss day 11.

Maya is a young Nepali mother who live in the USA, and she could not find a Hindu Priest to do the ceremony for her baby. Her sister recommended that the baby could be blessed by an American priest she knew. His name is Chris, and he is a Priest of the Lord Jesus. Maya agreed and invited family and friends to her home for the naming ceremony. Chris used sights, sounds and symbols familiar to Maya to explain how Jesus Christ's life shows His loving plan for Maya and her family as he blessed their child.



LET'S READ LUKE 2:27-32

Let's pray...a blessing on Hindu children and for them to have the opportunity to know Jesus.

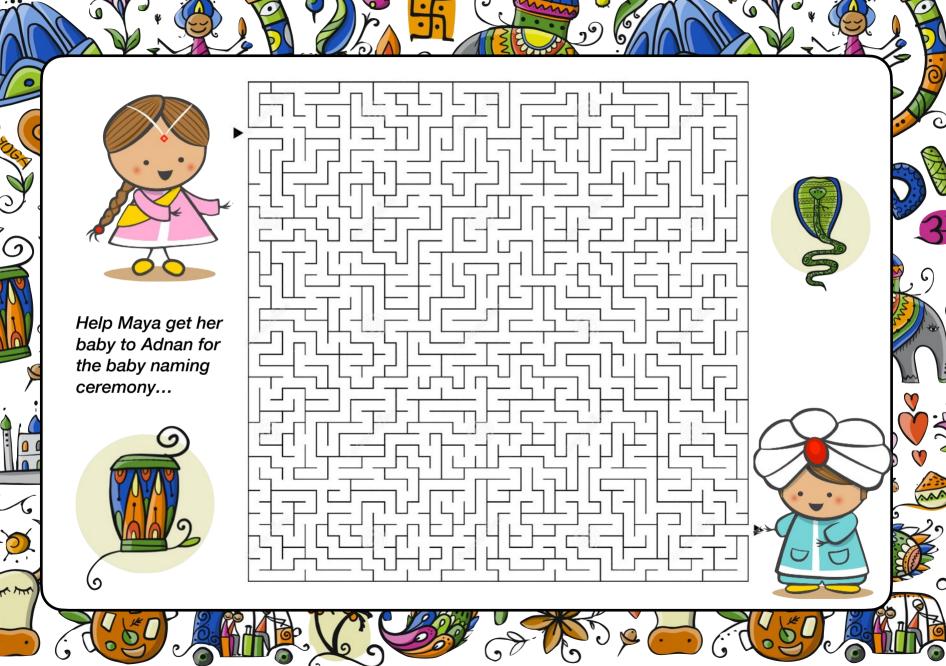
LET'S READ ACTS 17:23-28

Let's pray...Hindus living in a place where they are a minority, will find Christ-followers who will introduce them





What would you name this baby? Can you come up with a meaningful name? How could you pray for him? His mother? His nation?





Superstition

When you are scared what do you do? The Bible reminds us, His Perfect Love casts out all fear. What does this mean for you and the things that scare you?

In many places, especially poor areas away from the big cities, people believe strongly in spiritual things. They call upon Dayans, or witchdoctors, for their spiritual protection and power. This opens a door for spiritual beings against God called, "demons" to bother them and even take over their thoughts and actions.

Recently, two Indian evangelists went to a village they had never been to before. They didn't know what to do, so they started singing worship songs to Jesus and praying for the village. Some women from the village were listening and were getting angry about the worship. The two prayed for one woman in particular and God set her free from demonic influence in her life. Once the woman was at peace, they told her the good news of Jesus Christ. She immediately put her faith in Jesus along with her husband and children!

The next day, the evangelists visited the family to encourage them in their faith. They discovered that this woman was the main dayan of her village. She showed them an entire room dedicated to black magic. All the people in the village would visit her to tell their fortunes or to put curses on their neighbors. Now, as a new Christian, she stopped doing all these things. She emptied the room and threw everything out.

As the woman grew in her faith, she began to share her story with her friends and family. Everyone knew who she was and could see how much Jesus had changed her life. Many people became believers listening to what she said and started to meet in her home for prayer and worship.

LET'S READ ROMANS 8:37-39

Let's pray...for people trapped by wrong spiritual beliefs and doing witchcraft, that they will find freedom and peace when they come to know Jesus.

LET'S READ ROMANS 6: 10-28

Let's pray...for Christian workers in villages like this to have the full armor of God.

LET'S READ PHILIPPIANS 1: 9-10

Let's pray...for new groups of believers to be formed in unreached Hindu villages.

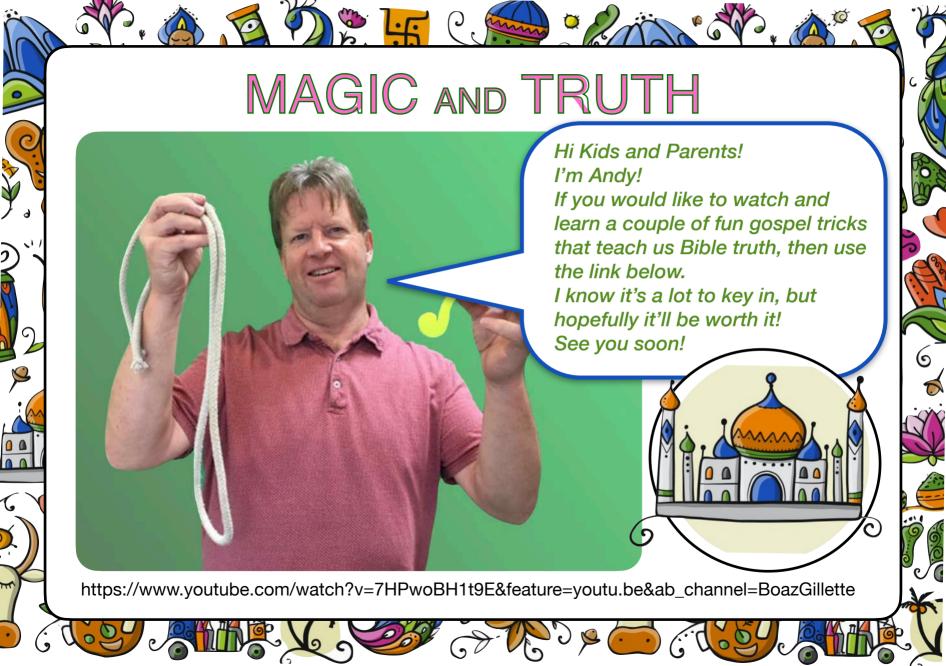


LET'S PLAY ALL TIED UP

- *Put someone in the middle of your prayer group or family.
- *Take string or rope or sellotape and tie the person up!
- * Sing a worship done together and then pray for Hindus to be set free from demonic influences.
- * Now take off the rope or tape.
- * Shout Halleluiah three times











Have you ever been to a wedding? What is something you really like about weddings? Why do you think weddings are so special and important?

If you ask a Hindu wife about her wedding, you may be invited to spend a few hours looking at photos and videos! The marriage ceremony is not just an event; it is also a samskaras, which means a holy ceremony to celebrate entering a new part of life. Most families carefully follow wedding traditions to make sure the new couple will be happy and rich.

The bride-to-be will often be given a beautiful tattoo, or mehndi, from her fingertips to her elbows. It is made by painting a special liquid called henna on her skin that wears off after several weeks. Her new husband's name may be hidden somewhere in the detailed patterns of the tattoo. When the husband-to-be leaves his home to receive his bride, a parade of friends and family goes with him. Sometimes, he rides on a colorfully decorated horse, while they all dance to drumbeats and set off firecrackers ahead of him. Everyone they pass along the way celebrates with them.

Once everyone is together, the man's family places a crown of flowers upon the woman. They also give her a special necklace, something she will always wear to show that she is married, as well as a new sari (a traditional South Asian dress).

Then, a big party follows! Family, friends and neighbors wish good things and give gifts to the new husband and wife. Then everyone eats a huge meal!

LET'S READ LUKE 19:37-38

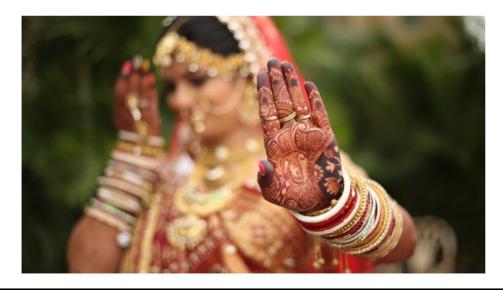
Let's pray...that Christians worshipping the Lord will be like a wedding parade, spreading joy in the streets.

LET'S READ ISAIAH 61:10, 62:5

Let's pray...many engaged, and newly married Hindu couples will have happy marriages and together know the good things of the One and True God.

LET'S READ REVELATION 19:9

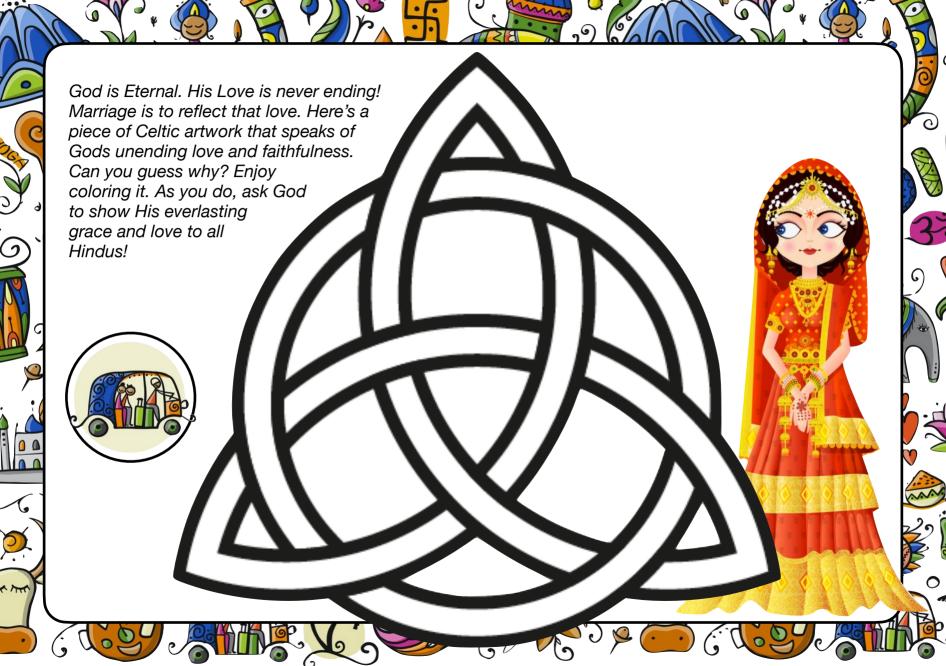
Let's pray...entire Hindu communities will receive God's invitation to enter His Kingdom to celebrate the marriage party of the Lamb.



LOOK CAREFULLY

On the picture to the left...

- Can you count many rings she is wearing? How many bangles?
- How many colors are her fingernails?
 One?
 Two?
 Three?
- Can you find the hidden face on her hand?





CHARITY AMONG HINDUS

Can you think of a time when someone helped you? How did it feel?

In Bihar, a poorer part of northeast India, summers are very hot and many people often don't have enough to eat. This makes them weak and easy targets for sickness. They do not have a very good system of doctors and hospitals. Bihar is over 80% Hindu and only 0.12% of the population are Christian.

When Christians in one part of Bihar asked for volunteers to hand out food and medicine to needy families, Nivedita, a Hindu woman, was the first to say, "Yes!".

Unlike much of India, Nivedita and her husband are not poor. She comes from a rich family who are *Brahmin* (a high-class people group in India). Her parents trained her to give help to others in need, but also to always be seen as a successful person. Nivedita was shocked by the desperate situation at the local hospital where large crowds were fighting with each other just to get medicine. She was used to being a giver, but the need was just too much for her to know where to begin.

Charity, or giving help to others, is an important part of being a good Hindu. Hospitality and giving to the poor are a *dharma*, or a religious duty. Hinduism teaches that if everyone does their *dharma*, *their* religious duties, then no one would be poor or needy. However, there is still a big difference between rich people and poor people in India today.

LET'S READ PROVERBS 14:31

Pray for poor people in Bihar, and for the people working to make healthcare better in this part of India.

Let's pray...for rich Hindu families to use their money and ability to help the poor.

LET'S READ MATTHEW 6:1-4 MATTHEW 6:19-21 LUKE 18:22

Let's pray...for Christians to follow the teaching of Jesus on giving to the poor.

THINK ABOUT IT...

In Bihar, only 0.12% are Christian. How many Christians would there be in a village of 10,000? How many in a school of 1,200?

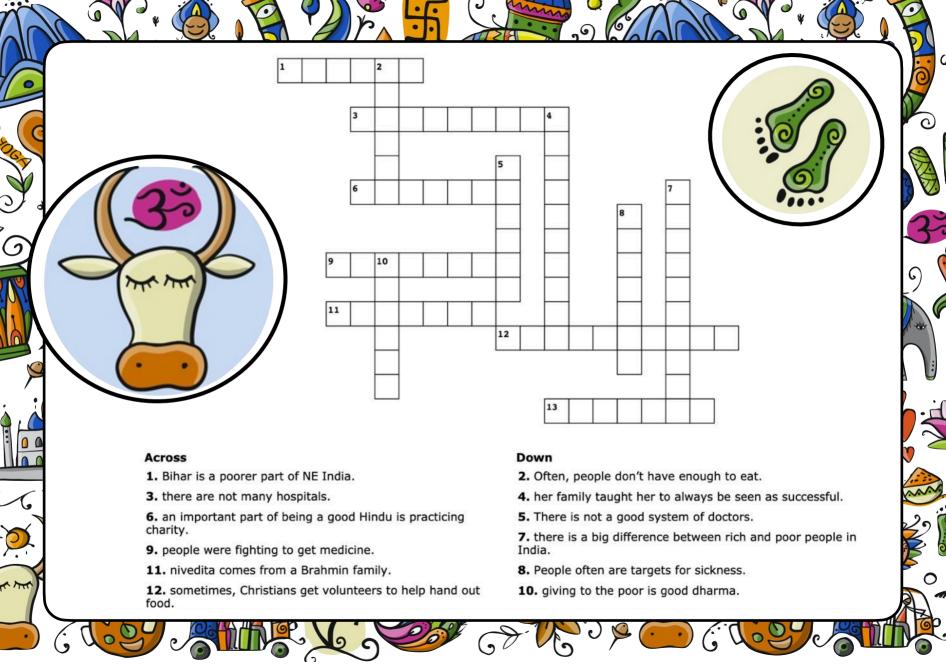


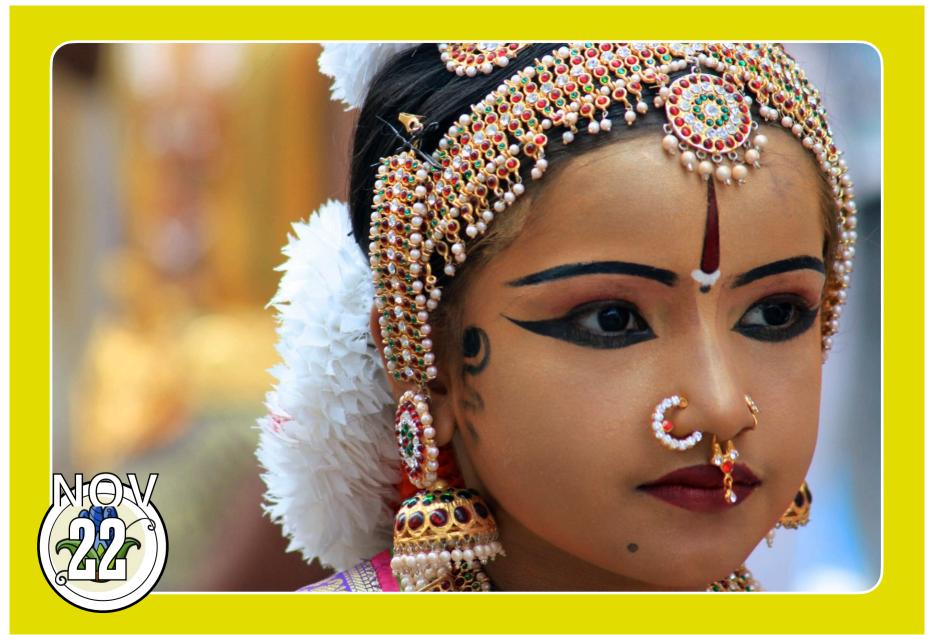
Can you imagine..?

If your family were the only followers of Jesus in your town?

If you were the only one in your school? If there were no churches in your area? How might life be different?







EARLY MARRIAGE

Imagine your wedding or a wedding that you have been to. What are people wearing? What kind of food and music is there?

Preeti's family decided who her husband would be three before her marriage, while she was still in college. After her marriage, she stayed in her parent's home to finish college. This often happens in Indian families.

Preeti's sister follows Jesus and has talked to her a lot about God's love and power. Preeti has dreamed and actually had visions about Jesus! She has experienced healing and seen answers to prayer. However, Preeti has not decided to follow Jesus. She is scared about how her husband's parents will react when she goes to live with them after her studies are finished. She knows that she will be asked to perform rituals and acts of worship to the different gods and images that her new husband's family worships. If she doesn't do these things, any problem the family has in the future will be blamed on her for not doing her religious duty.

For many young women from Hindu families, they must pay a high price to follow Jesus. If they become believers before their marriage is arranged, their family may have a hard time finding a husband for them. Or, like Preeti, their husband's family will often pressure them to perform Hindu religious duties. In some Hindu cultures, a young wife will be treated badly when she moves in with her new husband's family, even if she does all of the traditional rituals and worship.

However, for women who are able to stay strong in their faith, they can be powerful influences in the home of their relatives. With time, many families are touched by the blessing and peace of Jesus, because of their daughter-in-law's faith, and they will allow them to continue worshipping God. Many times, other family members also come to faith in Jesus.

LET'S READ ISAIAH 43:1,2

Let's pray...for young women believers who do not have the support of their families.

LET'S READ MATTHEW 5:4

Let's pray...for Hindus across the world, that as they would hunger and thirst for righteousness, they would be satisfied in finding Jesus.

LET'S READ MATTHEW 5:13-16

Let's pray...for women believers to be like "light and salt" to their families.

HIDDEN

Put A Blanket Over You As You Pray For These Young Women -Is It Dark? Does It Make You Feel Lonely? Ask God To Reveal Himself To These Young Ladies.



WORD SEARCH

FIND THESE WORDS BELOW

Dharma
Religious
Hinduism
Hospitality
Duty
Bihar

Nivedita
Doctors
Hospitals
Hindu

Christian Medicine

Brahmin

Desperate Charity



LHINDUISMGYCGVPBHOSPITALSLHHXVRNQAWVNWXJNRMPXNHIRRGPVEZIIEWJICOZCDOCTORSDDCVGUSVVVKOVCTIUREDBPPPXPZYCICTDDHRELIGIOUSAIYEIAAJAITESFWNNKS

A M M D B F T U L Q A G R C E X A I U I C H A R I T Y Q A R Z G N B H I G L Y A T I O Z A

TRHMWKJAZPKSEPP

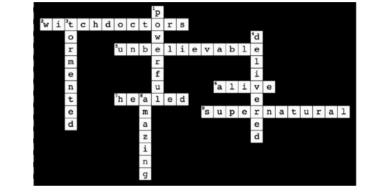
Q I K P A H P E K O M Y I X T S R I E R N F V C R X D T R E

ANSWER KEY

Word Scramble: NOV8 1. Rituals

- Caste
- Satsang Goddess
- Women
- Alka
- 7. Heavenly Father

NOV9



NOV 10

- 1. Christians worship one God. Hindus worship MANY gods.
- 2. Very old cultural music talks a lot about <u>HISTORY</u> and RELIGION.
- 3. Hindi music is very EMOTIONAL.
- 4. Sometimes, their music sounds like a god's VOICE.
- 5. Asha's friends show her another WAY.
- 6. She wants her husband to know God's PEACE and JOY.

NOV 11

- 1. Friday the 13 Broken Mirror
 - 3. Wishbone
 - 4. Black Cat
 - 5. Rabbit's Foot
 - Beginner's Luck
 - 7. Cross Your Fingers
 - 8. Knock on Wood



ZHFBJPIWTWFVHBEPWZBSYJVJZHCWDBYETZHOSHOPPINGPEAMIFNQCHHFXXBPKLNKITCHENXQFISDTNBLESSINGLVUIXHCLIGHTFSOYTTIZPHANTERASOVUASQXLYMINKPTPQGGGNFCGNINAFICOROBEREKVWHMYTIRUCES

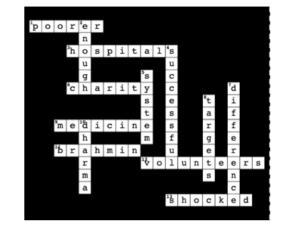
DHANTERAS CLEANING SHOPPING

KITCHEN

UTSENSILS BLESSING WEALTH

SECURITY

NOV 21



NOV 13 1. Darkness

- Sita
 Lakshimi
- 4. Firecrackers

FGNLXXRLOOWMZFG

- 5. Bells
- 6. Festival
- 7 Dyac
- 7. Dyas
- 8. Jewelry
- 9. Ravan
- 10. Food
- 11. Ram
- 12. Light

NOV 22

L H I N D U I S M G Y C G V P B H O S P I T A L S L H H X V R N Q A W V N W X J N R M P X N H I R R G P V E Z I I E W J I C O Z C D O C T O R S D D C V G U S V V V K O V C T I U R E D B P P P X P Z Y C I C T D D H R E L I G I O U S A I Y E I A A J A I T E S F W N N K S T R H M W K J A Z P K S E P P A M M D B F T U L Q A G R C E X A I U I C H A R I T Y Q A R Z G N B H I G L Y A T I O Z A Q I K P A H P E K O M Y I X T S R J E R N F V C R X D T R E





We would like to thank the team who took this material for adults and created it to be engaging for children:

Layout/design Writers

Tim Gillette Tim Gillette

Andy Kennedy Jeff and Kathy Boyum Curtis Clewett

Boaz Gillette