

“Hey Kids, Let’s Talk !”

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By Linda Dingeldein

GC Kids - Let's Talk
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Remember—Pray that many Hindus will become Christians!

GC KIDS is for children ages about 9 to 13. It aims to **nurture a passion for missions** that will encourage children to be active in the Great Commission throughout their lives.

This quarterly publication is mailed free to individual children or adult leaders of children. (For multiple copies see the information below.)

For **suggestions, ideas or submissions**, send postal mail via the address below or email elinor.young@worldteam.org.

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GC Kids is a service of **World Team**, "Glorifying God by working together to establish reproducing churches focusing on unreached peoples of the world."
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Issue 13: Reaching Hindus

Telling about the one true God

Some religions, like the Hindu religion, think there are many gods. We must tell them the truth about the one true God! That is what this issue of "GC Kids" is about. As you read the stories, think about what the disciple John said was the reason he wrote about Jesus: John said,

"Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name." John 20:30-31

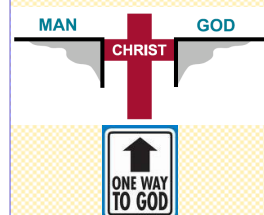
Reaching Hindus For Jesus



Pioneer Missionaries — John and Jessie Whipple

In 1912, only two weeks after they heard about the need for missionaries, John and Jessie Whipple went to India. They began to try to tell people of the Hindu religion about Jesus. The Whipples didn't know how to speak the language. They struggled to make the strange sounds. John learned that "A smile is the same in all languages." The people saw Christ's love in John and Jessie and started to trust them. Mr. and Mrs. Whipple made friendships and earned respect from the native Indians in the name of Christ.

At first the Whipples slept in hot stuffy tents with cows and buffalo roaming around them. Then after much prayer, God provided



The Great Commission

The verse in the box on page 6 is somewhat scrambled. Unscramble it and write it here. If you need help, see Acts 4:12:



Think About It

Read the stories on pages one through four, then answer these questions:

reach Hindus (or anyone who isn't a Christian) for Jesus?

Some people tell us that all religions are good as long as a person is sincere. What does Acts 4:12 say about that?

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Write here a prayer for Hindu people around the world.



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What does Acts 4:12 tell us about why we need to

them with money to build an orphanage for homeless children. They called it the Place of Faith.

John also felt bad for the people who needed medical help because none was available. They built a hospital and soon two nurses and a doctor joined their missionary team.

In 1930, when John Whipple was only 46, he died of smallpox. His life was short, but it had been spent wisely. Because of this man many Hindus became part of Christ's Kingdom.

(Adapted by Mary Hansen from Global Prayer Digest.)

That was a long time ago. What about now? Are Hindus still coming to Jesus? Read the next stories. ■

Prakash AND THE BULL

Prakash is a Hindu farmer in India. Hindu teachings tell of many gods, even though Hindus may believe in one main god. Hindus have great respect for idols of Hindu gods.

Prakash did not always behave well. Sometimes he drank a lot of liquor and got drunk. He attended Christian worship services from time to time. Perhaps he was looking for the truth and for answers to his problems.

One day, a stray bull wandered into Prakash's field. Prakash threw a rock at the bull to scare it away. But Prakash was drunk, and he missed the bull. Instead he hit a Hindu idol standing at the

edge of his field.

After the incident, about 150 radical Hindus and Indian policemen came to the

village and threatened the village Christians because of Prakash's bad aim. (Radicals are people who have extreme ideas or behavior, and who want big social changes to take place. Hindu radicals in India want Hindus to have more power.) Even though Prakesh had only occasionally attended a Christian church, the Hindus still blamed the Christians for damage to the idol. They beat up Prakash and some of the Christians.

Hindus believe all religions have truth in their teachings. But radical Hindus in India do not want other Hindus to leave their religion and follow Jesus. They sometimes attack Christians who spread the gospel and other Hindus who even think about becoming Christians. ■

INDIA: GANG MEMBER LEARNS FORGIVENESS

Narayan Gowda was the leader of a gang in India. His gang had 14 members. Narayan's gang drank, smoked, used drugs, and attacked people, especially Christians.

The gang was part of a larger





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Hindu Teachings	Christian Teachings
Hindus may believe in one main god; and some Hindus pick one god to be their own special god, but Hindu teachings tell of millions of gods.	There is one God. "The Lord our God, the Lord is one" (Deuteronomy 6:4).
To Hindus, salvation is freedom from being reborn again and again. They believe that when they reach this freedom, they will become part of their main god. Some of the ways Hindus try to get closer to salvation include rituals, good works, meditation, yoga, and the worship of gods.	The only way to eternal life is by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6).

Source: www.KidsofCourage.com Archives, "Comparing Hinduism and Christianity."

group of radical Hindus. The radical Hindus praised them when they caused trouble, but Narayan wasn't happy. "I struggled with guilt because of the terrible things I was doing," he said.

The Forgiving Pastor

Many Christians in India are poor. One group of poor Indian Christians saved money for years to build a tiny church. Finally the little brick building was completed.

One night, Narayan and his gang took hammers, axes, and other tools to the church. Piece by piece, they tore the building apart and destroyed it.

The pastor rushed to the ruins of his church. He met a policeman who was investigating the crime. "Do you know who did this?" the officer asked the pastor. The pastor knew. Narayan's gang was well-known. But the pastor gave a statement to the police that said he did not want to charge anyone with the crime. Instead, he was praying for their forgiveness.

The church members gathered to fast and pray for the gang members' salvation. They sent the names of the trouble-makers to Christians all over the city so others could

pray, too.

"The actions of these Christians showed me God's grace and forgiveness in an entirely new way," said Narayan.

The Book

Narayan's family was fed up with him. His relatives were Hindus, but they did not approve of the evil ways of the gang.

Narayan's mother followed Hindu rituals to try to bring about change in her son. But he didn't change. She was so upset by his behavior that she became ill and had to be taken to the hospital.

A pastor who visited the sick people at the hospital gave Narayan's mother a New Testament. She told him she was concerned about her son. The pastor asked her son's name, and she told him. He recognized the name. The pastor was one of the Christians praying for Narayan's salvation.

Narayan's mother took the New Testament home. She put it on a shelf and didn't read it. Narayan saw it and started reading it. Then



he began attending church services at the hospital where his mother had gotten the book. Like the Apostle Paul, he became a follower of Jesus, he quit persecuting Christians, and his life changed.

From Persecutor to Persecuted

Narayan's mother and the rest of his family were upset by his faith in Christ. They said he had "lost his mind." His neighbors insulted him for not worshipping the gods of his ancestors.

But the police were happy! A police officer told him, "Your Jesus Christ has done what the entire police force and the laws of this country could not do. He changed you into a law-abiding citizen."

Narayan is now a pastor. Recently, radical Hindus attacked him because they said he had been telling other Hindus about Jesus.

Pastor Narayan and his congregation did not press charges. They have forgiven the attackers.

The Christians will pray for the gang that attacked the pastor.

"The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective" (James 5:16, NIV) ■

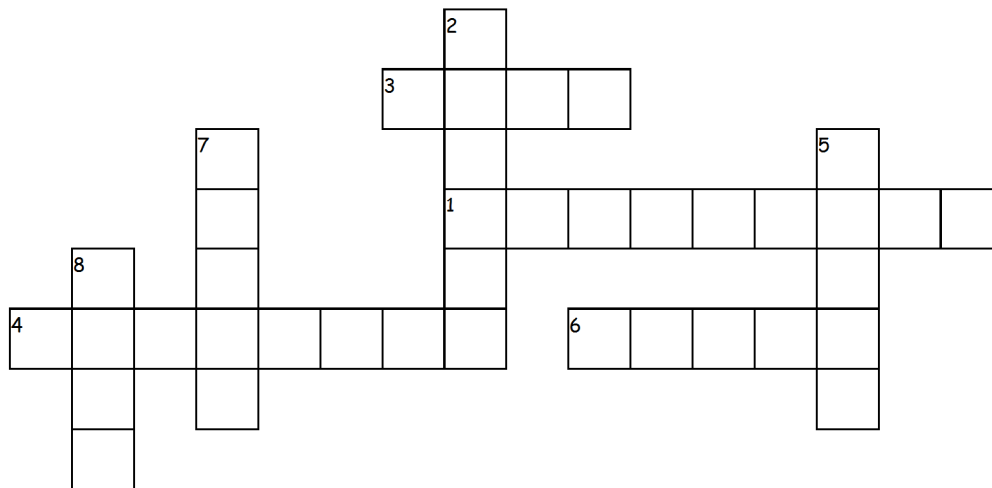
The stories "Prakash and the Bull" and "Gang Member Learns Forgiveness" are used by permission: The Voice of the Martyrs, www.KidsofCourage.com. Sources include: *Compass Direct*.

COWS ARE HONORED IN INDIA'S HINDU RELIGION. MCDONALD'S RESTAURANTS IN INDIA DO NOT SERVE BEEF (BEEF IS THE MAIN INGREDIENT IN HAMBURGERS.)



Facts From the Stories

Please complete the crossword puzzle below



Across:

1. Narayan's mother got a New _____.
3. Hindus believe in _____ gods.
4. Narayan became a _____ of Jesus.
6. Religion of some people in India and other places

Down:

2. What Narayan is now.
5. Who radical Hindus do not want people to follow.
7. Hindu gods are made into these.
8. What many Christians in India are.

