

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US IN PRAYING FOR THE NATIONS!

As we start a new year, we are focusing on world religions and how to pray for the various followers among them. This month we will look at Hinduism.

The wide and great diversity among what Hindus believe and practice can be somewhat overwhelming. About 15% of the world's population call themselves Hindu and pride themselves on their liberal and accepting stance toward all other world religions. When a faith already encompasses 33 million gods, what's one more god to the mix, right? The concept and truth of following just one is difficult for their beliefs and culture to grasp.

Praying for and reaching Hindus, "requires creativity, faith and boldness on the part of church planters and new believers," says Ron, a Southeast Asia TEAM worker. "Following Jesus challenges the idolatry and immorality of the Hindu beliefs and practices", he continues. As with many other religions and beliefs, it takes sensitivity, patience and direction from the Holy Spirit to jump into what may become difficult conversations.

We, as believers, know that our God can supernaturally show Himself amongst their curiosity so that they will desire to follow Jesus Christ exclusively. There are 2,328 unreached Hindu people groups that we can pray for, specifically their hunger and thirst for a relationship with the one and true living God.

WHILE MOVEMENT IS SLOW, CHRIST'S NAME IS BEING MADE KNOWN STEADILY AMONG THE HINDU. JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THEM AROUND THE WORLD AND FOR NEW AND STRONG BELIEVERS TO MULTIPLY.

Sun: PRAY for church leaders to bring messages of truth, not clouded by a lifetime of Hindu cultural beliefs.

Mon: PRAY that Hindus can come to fully understand the Gospel and that salvation is a free gift, not to be earned by our works.

Tue: ASK GOD to help people renounce all false gods and the many idols they worship.

Wed: PRAY that converted Hindus will be able to worship and practice their faith without persecution from their communities or their own families.

Thu: ASK GOD to show the church opportunities to reach out with aid, encouragement and the Good News among the sick and less fortunate.

Fri: PRAY for the multiplication of churches of Hindu background believers.

Sat: PRAISE GOD for disciples immersing themselves in the culture to build relationships among Hindus across the globe.

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

- I. FRANCE | Global workers continue to receive warnings of another imminent COVID-19 outbreak, with requirements to wear masks, deadlines for vaccines and required health passes. With communications of planned demonstrations and dates for strikes at airports and mass transportation locations, France is in turmoil. The churches in the area are continuing to seek ways to share the hope we have in Jesus.
- 2. UNITED STATES | TEAM global workers working with Afghan refugees have been providing for their practical needs to set up their new lives as well as offering English classes in person and online! While delivering donations to these families, they find opportunities to share the Good News and give out Bibles and the book "What is Christianity?" to all who are interested. Many new Afghan families are arriving from camps into our communities with needed support.

PRAISE REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD:

- ITALY | A new church outreach ministry is in the planning stages. The church is very involved in the community and already identified women in the church that will lead this ministry. TEAM global workers will be available to partner with them as they get this work off the ground. The first church-wide information mini conference will be after the first of the year!
- 2. SOUTH ASIA | One advantage global workers have being foreigners to their host countries is that they have opportunities to invite locals to holiday meals that can quickly turn into deeper conversations. This past holiday season, one missionary was able to host people over two days and shared the Good News and uniqueness of Jesus. After hearing different people's beliefs, more questions were asked and there was an opportunity to go further in sharing and conversations.