







## I HEARD HINDUISM IS COMMON IN INDIA. WHAT IS IT?

You've heard from this week's video experiences that many people in India haven't heard of Jesus. So, what do they believe?

Hinduism is the main religion of India, followed by almost 80% of the country. Here are a few things to know about it.

Most Hindus believe there are millions of gods. They may pray to one god for good health, another for money, and yet another if they're asking for safe travels on vacation. Many Hindus worship and give sacrifices to their gods out of fear. They think a god might do something bad to them and their family if they don't worship correctly. Doesn't this make you glad that, as Christians, we worship one God who is full of love?

Hindus worship many idols—images and sculptures of gods. Along with worshipping millions of gods, Hindus worship images and sculptures of their gods. They also idolize cows, believing they are holy. This means that, if a cow is wandering through the street (which is common in India!), all traffic has to stop so the cow can get through. It also means that Hindus don't eat any kind of meat that comes from a cow.

Hindus believe in karma. Hindus believe that people are reborn after they die, and the way they come back depends on how good of a life they lived. If they were a bad person, Hindus believe they may be reborn as an animal. If they were a good person, Hindus believe they may be reborn as royalty. They believe this cycle goes on and on until the person lives life exactly as they're supposed to.

**Hindus believe in the caste system.** Hindus believe that some people are born to be more important than others. There are many levels of importance, called castes, and if your family comes from a certain caste, you can never switch to a different one. Hindus believe that the only way to get into a better caste is by being reborn into a better caste through karma.

As you can see, being a Hindu is much different from following Jesus. This is why Children's Bible Clubs are so important, as Sam shared in this week's video! When kids learn about Jesus, their entire families are inspired by His unconditional love.

