

ENGAGING HINDUISM TRAINING - INTRO 101

January 22, 2020

WHY INDIA?:

India has the most unreached _____ in the world.

Indians in America are “Triply _____” to come study and work in America.

Per capita, Indians in America have the highest average _____ and

_____.

Dallas - Fort Worth has the _____ Indian population in America.

Hindus are the most _____ people with the gospel in America.

INDIAN CULTURE:

India is more like the _____ than the _____.

- There are many different _____.
- There are many different _____.
- There are many different _____.

A Hindu's highest _____ and _____ is to their _____.

- The most meaningful identity for the Hindu is his _____.
- Hindus are _____ and make decisions based on what is best for their _____.

_____ means something different for an _____ than for an _____.

- Converting from Hinduism to Christianity is considered a _____ of one's own community.
- Conversion is the _____ of changing one's community.
- Your _____ does not reflect your _____ but the _____ you were born into.

HINDU SPIRITUAL BELIEFS:

There is no such thing as _____ “Hinduism”.

Hinduism is made up of _____ spiritual beliefs.

“Ishta Devata” is a _____ or family god.

“Yesu Bhakta” - which means devotee or _____ of Jesus in Hindi.

“A Hindu may embrace a non-Hindu religion without ceasing to be a Hindu... Hinduism is, then, both a civilization and conglomerate of religions, with neither a beginning, a founder, nor a central authority, hierarchy, or organization.”
– The Supreme Court of India 1977

Hinduism is not so much a religion, but really it is more of a culture and community with hundreds of _____ in it. Therefore, Hinduism is not so much a religion
Indians need to be _____ from, but it is more helpful to view Hinduism as a culture and community we need to bring Jesus into.

“Hinduism is a culture that has room for many religions. Christianity is a religion which can become incarnate in any culture.”
-Hans Staffner in “Jesus Christ in the Hindu Community”

“According to the 2011 Indian census, 2.3% of Indians were identified as “Christians”. A recent estimate indicates that 5.1% of India’s population is somehow connected to Jesus (Joshua Project 2016). If that number is at all reliable, then more than half of Indian followers of Jesus (2.8%) do not identify themselves as “Christians” for various reasons. In raw numbers, that represents about 30 million Indians who identify as Christians, while 35 million follow Jesus without Christian identity. We must consider what drives this significant hesitation to assume a Christian identity.”
-Paul Pennington in “Christian Barriers To Jesus”

CHALLENGES HINDUS HAVE WITH CHRISTIANITY:

1. Hindus believe that Jesus is for the Christians, not for _____.
2. Hindus don't believe that they can follow Jesus without abandoning their _____ and _____.
3. Hindus often have a _____ perception of Christians.

The challenge of Hindu ministry is to help a Hindu _____ that they can personally _____ Jesus, and that they can _____ Jesus in a way that brings _____ and honor to their family and their greater Hindu community.

3 Quick Points:

1. Church - "It's like a rock concert with a _____ speech in the middle of it."
2. Pushy People - "I feel like every American I meet is trying to _____ me."
3. Agenda - "Where's the _____ coming from?"

AKASH'S STORY:

STAIRS - A Hindu Ministry Philosophy

S - _____

T - _____

A - _____

I - _____

R - _____

S - _____

ANUBHAV:

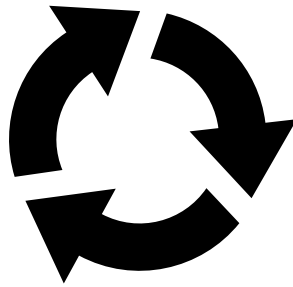
Anubhav means _____.

It's not about _____ but about _____.

Our goal is to _____ experiences with Jesus and to _____ these experiences with the gospel.

Hindus are not _____, and so how they begin to follow Jesus is often different from a typical _____ pattern.

Perspective Shift - To Experience:



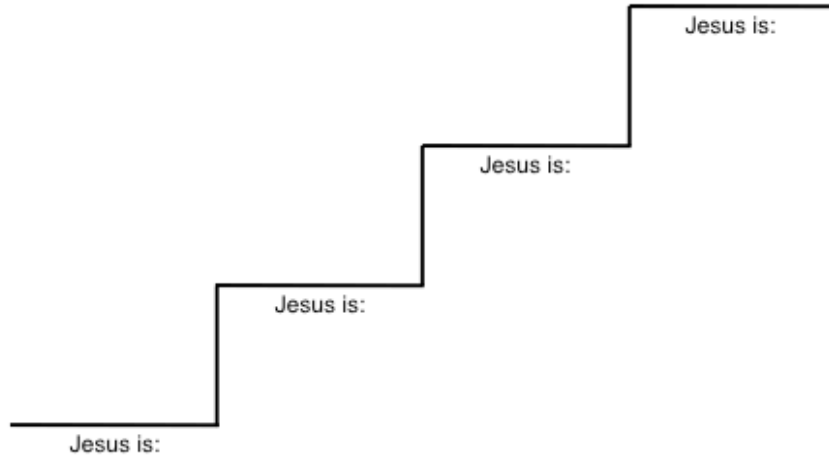
Examples of Anubhav:

- Answered prayer
- Dreams and visions of Jesus
- Feeling of peace that is attributed to Jesus
- Meaningful worship experiences
- Divinely-orchestrated coincidence - “touch of God”
- Wisdom that speaks to family and relationship issues
- Appropriate respect and kindness, observing and respecting family formalities and customs

Ways to Facilitate Experience:

- Building _____ in love
- Sharing personal _____ - both salvation and experience
- _____ with Hindu people
- _____ God
- Storytelling Bible _____

4 STAGES OF ANUBHAV



HOW-TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS WITH HINDUS:

Your relationships with Hindus must be _____ and _____.

Indian friendships are _____.

1. Hindus want to be in relationships with people as _____, not just
_____.

2. There is a dynamic of _____ in friendships.

Attending “poojas” and Indian festivals:

Cultural Do's & Don'ts:

- All Hindus generally do not eat beef or pork.
- “Non-vegetarians” will eat chicken, fish, or egg.
- Vegetarians will not eat any meat, chicken, or fish or anything cooked in the broth of these animals. They may or may eat egg.
- Separate vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes and use separate serving utensils for each.
- Label foods and note if they contain chicken or egg.
- Pass or touch food with your right hand.
- Eastern cultures are used to being served by the host, rather than Western “help yourself” buffet style.
- Dressing modestly is important.
- Men should relate to men, and women should relate to women, especially in physical greetings.

Seek to be a _____.

- Learn to say each person’s entire name correctly.
- Learn to appreciate Indian food and participate in the Hindu food culture.
- Learn to develop Hindu forms of courtesy and politeness.
- Learn how the Hindu family structure works.
- Learn about Hindu deities and worship forms.
- Learn about Hindu festivals.
- Learn about Hindu holy scriptures and philosophy.
- Learn the language.

GENERAL MINISTRY PRINCIPLES:

Use _____ language when talking about your faith in Jesus.

Practice the idea of _____.

Be careful about the _____ you use.

Share basic _____ with your friends.

Be _____.