

# World Champions

OM New Zealand's newsletter for children who want to make a difference in God's World!



## Country focus: Nepal

Topic: God gives us hope

Nepal may be a little country, but it has its share of big things! Two of the world's biggest countries, India and China, are its neighbours.

It has a large population of about 26 million people, and is home to the world's deepest canyon and 8 of the world's 10 highest mountains, including Mt Everest, the highest in the world.

Nepal is also the only official Hindu country in the world. About 9 out of 10 people are Hindus, and they worship about 330 million different gods! Some people in Nepal are Buddhists, and there are not many Christians there at all.

There are big problems in Nepal too. Many people are very poor, and it's difficult to get a good education. There is also some trouble with the government.

People in Nepal really need World Champions to Pray, Give and Go For It!

## Bible reading:

This man didn't have much hope. He was blind and poor, and people didn't care about him.

But Jesus gave him hope.

Read what happened in

Mark 10:46-52



## Did you know:

In Nepal, Mt Everest is called *Sagarmatha*, which means "goddess of the sky."



## Can you read Nepali? This month's memory verse:

People in Nepal use a very different alphabet to us! Can you decipher these Nepali letters to find out what this month's memory verse is?

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
ब	द	अ	म	भ	ा	न	ज	ष	व	प	ि	त्

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
ल	य	उ	त्र	च	क	त	ग	ख	ध	ह	थ	श

तजभ यिचम षक तजभचभ तय चभकअगभ

बि धिजय बचभ मषकअयगचबनभम

बलम जबखभ नषखभल गउ जयउभ.

उकबि



A Hindu god

## What is Hinduism?

Hinduism is a religion that started more than 3500 years ago. Most people in Nepal are Hindus, and it is a Hindu country. Hindus believe in many different gods but they are all forms of one supreme god. They can choose which gods they want to worship. They go to temples and offer statues of their gods food and money, and pray for help. Many Hindu people also have shrines in their homes or where they work.



Offering food to a Hindu god at a shrine.

Many Hindus believe in something called caste. Each person is born into a different caste, and some are better than others. People can't change the caste they're in, and people from a higher caste don't like to mix with people from lower castes.

Hindu people believe that when you die, you come back to earth again as another person or animal. If you were good, you come back as a person in a higher caste, but if you were bad, you come back as someone from a lower caste, or an animal.

This means that people in lower castes are treated quite badly, because people believe they were bad in a previous life. It's very difficult for people like this to get a good education or job, and many are very poor, and have lost hope that they are worth anything.



### Did you know:



Nepal is the only country with a flag that isn't a rectangle or square.

The highest hotel in the world

is in Nepal. Built on a mountain at 3800m, it's 46m higher than Mt Cook!

Because so many people are now climbing the mountains in Nepal, there is a new problem. They are leaving their rubbish on the mountain-tops! In some places, the rubbish piles are huge!

There is an airline in Nepal called 'Buddha Air'.



### Meet the OM team - World Champions in Nepal:

OM has lots of people from Nepal and around the world working to bring God's hope to people in Nepal. We have had teams in Nepal for over 35 years, and these are some of the things we are doing:



Teaching Nepali Christians more about God in Bible colleges and through courses.

Teaching women from lower castes how to sew so that they can make a living for their families. Many of them have to look after their children on their own and have no money.



Sending trekking teams into villages in the mountains to tell people about God's love and give them Bibles.

Sponsoring Nepali children from a lower caste so they can go to school.



We also teach English, have programmes for children, and go to prisons and slums, where the poorest people live. In all these things, the aim is to show people that God loves them and He can give them real hope in their lives.



## World Champions... Pray!

The game 'snakes and ladders' is very popular among children in Nepal. It was created by a Hindu poet and holy man in the 13th Century. He made it to show what Hindu people believe.

The ladders in the game show that doing good things takes people to heaven or lets them come back as someone in a high caste. The snakes show that evil people get born again as an animal, plant or someone in a low caste when they die.

It is sad that so many people in Nepal think their lives are like a game of snakes and ladders. Play this game with a friend to pray for the people of Nepal! When you land on a prayer item, stop and pray for it. How can you remember to keep praying for Nepal this month?



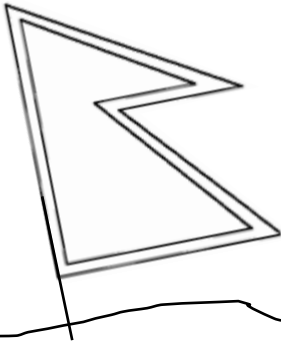
*A Hindu temple in Nepal*

48 <b>You win!</b>	47	46 Pray for the Christians in Nepal to grow closer to God	45	44	43
37	38	39	40	41 Pray for more Christians to go to Nepal to tell people about God	42
36	35	34	33	32	31
25	26	27 Pray for wisdom for the leaders of Nepal	28	29	30
24 Thank God that the church in Nepal is growing fast!	23	22	21	20	19 Thank God for the OM teams working in Nepal
13	14	15	16	17	18
12 Pray that people will treat everyone the same in Nepal	11	10	9	8	7
1 <b>Start</b>	2	3 Pray that the Hindus in Nepal will find that God gives them hope	4	5	6



## World Champions... Give!

You can also be a World Champion by giving. If you would like to, you can ask an adult to help you send some money to us to send the OM team in Nepal, to help them continue to give God's hope to others through the work they do.



## World Champions... Go for it!

When people climb Mt Everest, they work together and have to trust each other with their lives. One person goes first and secures themselves to the rock. They then keep the rope tight for their partner, so that if they fall, they won't fall far and hurt themselves.

*Draw this climber's partner holding him with the rope, and colour in the Nepali flag and the picture.*

Our relationship with God is a bit like these climbers. We can put our hope in Him always, knowing that He loves us and is taking care of us!

God gives us hope. We can be certain that no situation we are in is too difficult for Him, and that when we trust Him, we don't need to worry about anything.

He may not take the bad situation away, but He helps and guides us as we trust Him, just like the climbers do on Mt Everest. And we know that we will live together with Him one day, where there will be nothing to worry about!

This is a very special thing to know. Thousands of people in the world, including many in Nepal, feel that they have no hope because life is difficult for them. Jesus asked his followers to tell people around the world how to follow God. When they do that, they will also have hope, now and forever. So how can we share God's hope with others? One great way is to invite your friends to church or a Kid's club with you. Can you think of a friend you could invite this week? Why not go for it?



'World Champions' is made by OM New Zealand, where we want people of all ages to be a part of the wonderful things God is doing around the world. Why not contact us and see how else you can get involved?

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