Table Talk NEPAL

Mountain Mystery!

How to Play: Using the numbered clues, fill in the missing words about Nepal on the blank lines inside the mountain. The first word is already completed. Afterwards, use as many words as possible to construct a sentence related to Nepal. An answer key and printables are available at: vomcanada.com/TableTalkNepal

1. COW
2. _ S _ _
3. _ _ _ I _
4. _ E _ _ L _
5. _ _ E _ E _ _
6. _ _ L _ _ I _ _
7. K _ _ H _ _ _ D _
8. _ _ R _ _ _ U _ K _

Clues:

1. The national animal of Nepal.
2. Nepal is part of this continent.
3. Nepal's southern neighbour.
4. A common place of worship in Nepal.
5. The highest mountain in the world.
6. Nepal has diverse _____, including many endangered animals.
7. Nepal's capital city.
8. A natural disaster caused by tectonic activity.

Construct a sentence with the words:

_____

_____

_____

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Answer Key
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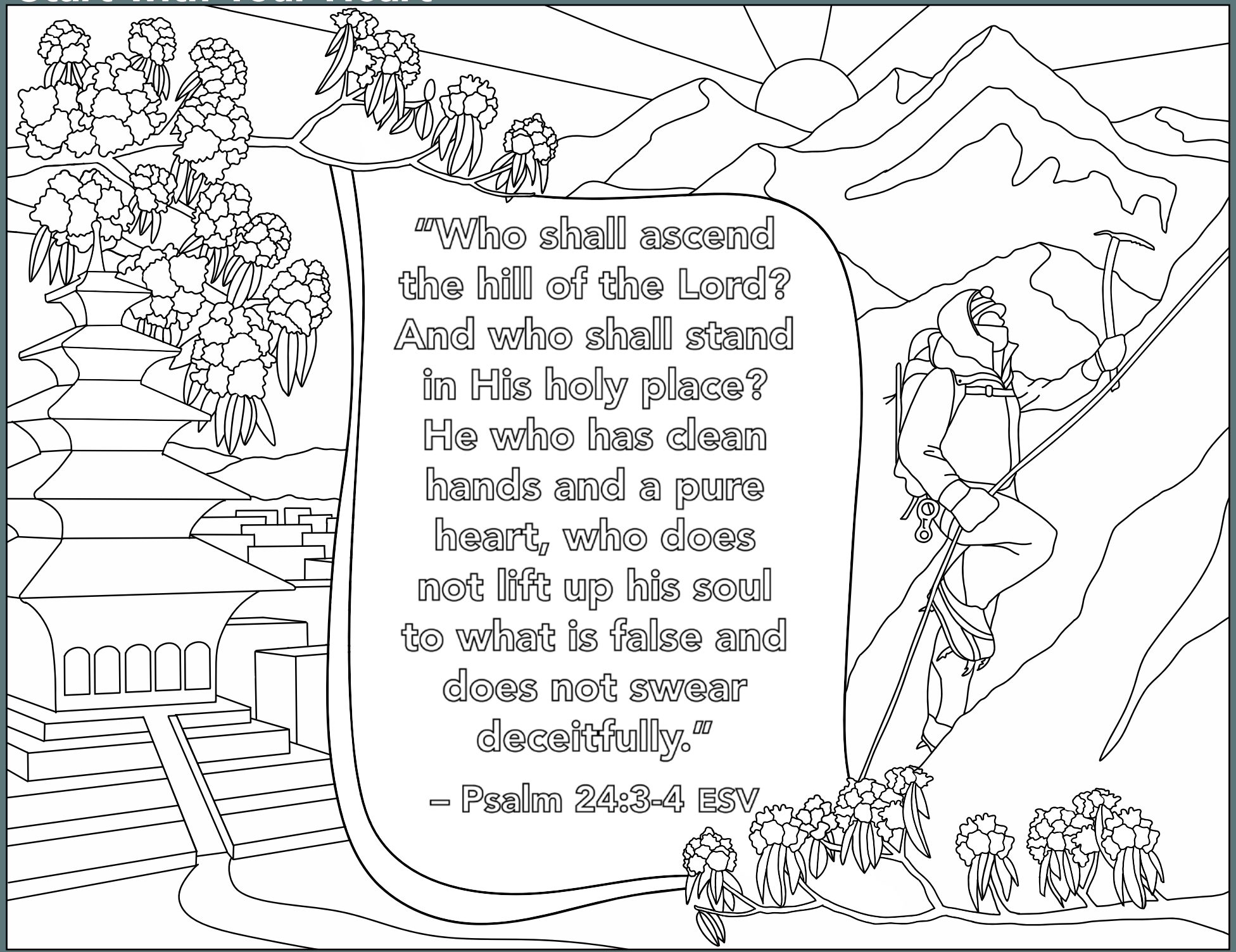
Construct a sentence with the words:

There once was a cow named Earthquake, that lived in a temple on top of Mount Everest, who loved to look at the wildlife, and dream of visiting places like India, Kathmandu, and the rest of Asia.

Start with Your Heart



August 2024

His Way

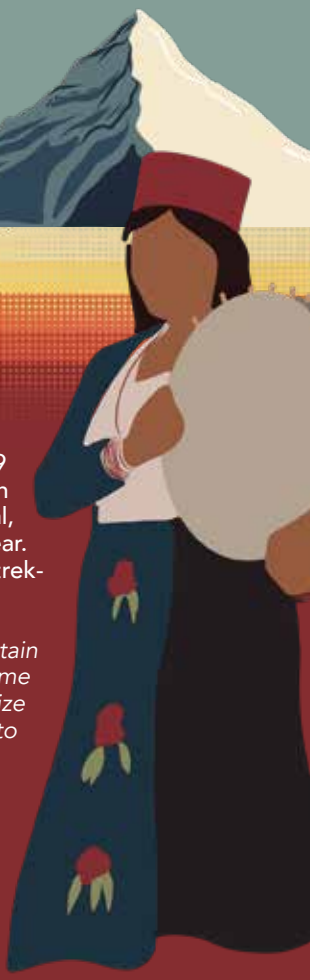
"Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully." – Psalm 24:3-4 ESV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 **MALDIVES** Pray that the country's oppressive government and culture will compel Maldivians to seek freedom in Christ.	**2** **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** Pray for Emiratis who have converted from Islam to Christianity, asking that they be strengthened spiritually.	**3** **IRAQ** Pray for wisdom and guidance on behalf of local churches that are ministering to displaced Christians.
4 **LAOS** Pray that new Christians will remain steadfast in Christ, even if they are accused of choosing a "foreign religion."	**5** **SOMALIA** Pray for Somali Christians who risk being actively pursued and killed if their faith in Christ is discovered.	**6** **KUWAIT** Pray that followers of Jesus who flee Kuwait will find refuge among believers in other countries.	**7** **OMAN** Pray that Christian converts from Islam will not be discouraged when facing legal challenges due to their conversion.	**8** **BENIN** Pray that new Christians will have access to God's Word, especially in rural areas.	**9** **QATAR** Pray for the small number of Qatari Christians who gather covertly for teaching and worship.	**10** **SYRIA** Pray for the protection of those distributing Bibles in Syria, asking the Lord to bless and multiply their efforts.
11 **ALGERIA** Pray for safe and successful Bible distributions, which otherwise could be risky for the distributors involved.	**12** **TURKMENISTAN** Pray that Turkmen Christians will be able to obtain Bibles in their own language.	**13** **UZBEKISTAN** Pray that Atamarat, Zamira and their sons will have many opportunities to share the Gospel.	**14** **ETHIOPIA** Praise God that Biblical churches continue to plant new places of worship and send missionaries!	**15** **CAMEROON** Pray for the comfort and healing of Christians who have been traumatized by Boko Haram attacks.	**16** **JORDAN** Pray that churches in need of new facilities will find favour with the government.	**17** **TANZANIA** Pray for the Lord's provision and strength on behalf of persecuted Christians living near the Ugandan border.
18 **COMOROS** Pray for Bible translators who are working to make God's Word available in native languages.	**19** **VIETNAM** Pray for Hmong Christians who experience some of the most violent and harshest forms of persecution.	**20** **SRI LANKA** Pray for Christian ministry workers like Malaramma who are boldly leading many to faith in Christ.	**21** **MALAYSIA** Pray for Christians who have been tortured in reeducation camps for refusing to return to Islam.	**22** **SAUDI ARABIA** Pray for Christians who have been tortured in reeducation camps for refusing to return to Islam.	**23** **MALI** Pray for Christian converts from Islam who face harassment from their opposing families and/or communities.	**24** **KYRGYZSTAN** Pray that believers will *"shine as lights"* by living with integrity amid widespread corruption (Philippians 2:14-16).
25 **SUDAN** Pray for Christian ministry workers who are responding to crisis situations in conflict areas.	**26** **BHUTAN** Pray that those who've lost their livelihoods for following the Lord will experience His miraculous provisions.	**27** **TAJIKISTAN** Pray that God's Word, which is available only in some cities, will become widely accessible in innovative ways.	**28** **COLOMBIA** Pray that ministry workers distributing Bibles in the country's "red zones" will be undetected by rebel groups.	**29** **NIGER** Pray for the healing of believers who have been attacked by militant Islamists from neighbouring countries.	**30** **INDONESIA** Pray for the successful distribution of Bibles, especially in areas of heavy persecution.	**31** **ERITREA** Pray for the salvation of the country's leader, Isaias Afwerki, who studied military tactics in Communist China.

Voice of the Martyrs CANADA

Scan to access Digital Calendar

Navigating the Facts – Nepal



One Way

The goal of Hinduism is achieving *moksha*, the release from the cycle of reincarnation and *karma*. Hindus believe that this release allows them to return to their deity, like how a river empties into an ocean. A person can achieve *moksha* by choosing one of three paths. The first path involves performing selfless acts of service to others. The second requires uniting oneself with Brahman (the ultimate god) through meditation and intellectual study of man and the universe. The final path encompasses a person's complete devotion to their chosen Hindu deity. At the end of the worshipper's life, however, there is no assurance that their efforts were enough to achieve *moksha*.

The Bible teaches that Jesus is the only way to eternal life (John 14:6). Salvation is not earned through accomplishing good works nor acquiring a vast knowledge of God, but rather through faith and obedience to the saving work of Jesus (Ephesians 2:8-9). Christians are assured of their heavenly home the moment Jesus enters their hearts, giving them freedom and peace as they follow Him.

Way Out

It's essential for believers in Nepal to receive discipleship. The challenge is that most Christians are isolated in rural villages where there is minimal access to Biblical resources that can help them grow in their faith. VOMC's *Equipping the Saints Fund* supports projects in Nepal that help meet the strategic educational needs of believers as they develop in their understanding and application of God's Word.

This month, challenge yourself to read at least one chapter of your Bible each day. After reading the day's chapter, tell somebody a key point that you learned, and then pray accordingly for Nepali Christians.

Recommended Reads:

Hearts of Fire by Voice of the Martyrs. (Teen/Adult)

Something Needs to Change: A Call to Make Your Life Count in a World of Urgent Need by David Platt. (Teen/Adult)

Everest: The Remarkable Story of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay by Alexandra Stewart. (8-12 years old)

Sources:

https://www.britannica.com/place/Nepal
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United States Commission on International Religious Freedom: Country Update: Nepal.
https://www.opendoors.org/en-US/research-reports/country-dossiers/WWL-2024-Nepal-Full-Country-Dossier.pdf
https://www.christianity.com/wiki/cults-and-other-religions/what-should-christians-know-about-hinduism-5-essential-factors.html
https://www.patheos.com/library/hinduism/beliefs/afterlife-and-salvation

Weigh In

1. Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world, towers at a staggering 8,849 metres high. As part of the Himalayas, which extend along the northern border of Nepal, it's climbed by thousands of people every year. Climbers face numerous challenges when trekking to the summit.

Thin air in the upper elevation requires mountain climbers to use oxygen tanks. Brainstorm some other challenges climbers may face and theorize how they can safely prepare for the journey to the summit of Mount Everest.

2. Agriculture in Nepal relies on rainwater, since most farmland is not irrigated. Lack of rainfall can cause severe food shortages, especially in the mountains. The roads are severely underdeveloped, making it nearly impossible to supply food from outside sources to starving people in these communities.

Food shortages are a significant issue for those living in the mountainous communities of Nepal. In theory, creating better roads could help improve food accessibility in the country's remote regions. Think about additional ways to prevent food shortages from occurring and create a plan to implement your solution.

3. Children from Hindu families are often instructed by their parents to not associate with Christian children in their classes or communities. Thus, young believers are often bullied and excluded from social activities.

Have you ever been bullied or unjustly excluded from an activity? Remembering your own experiences and emotions, consider how children in Nepal might feel when they are rejected by their peers. How would you respond if you were in their situation? Does your response align with what the Bible teaches?

4. The anti-conversion law in Nepal prevents people from switching religions or persuading others to join a particular faith. For Christians, this means that sharing the Gospel is illegal and could result in large fines or even imprisonment.

Nepal claims to be a secular state, meaning that each citizen is allowed to practise and profess their religion according to their conviction. However, due to the anti-conversion law, Christians are unable to legally practise the Great Commission. Do you think this law contradicts freedom of religion? Why or why not?

Answers:
1. Cow 2. Asia 3. India 4. Temple 5. Everest 6. Wildlife 7. Kathmandu 8. Earthquake