

## 5. DO'S AND DON'TS WITH SOUTH ASIANS

**DO**...serve your friends unconditionally out of love—no strings attached.

**DO**...be respectful and courteous as you learn about your friends' culture and beliefs. Ask intelligent probing questions. Remember the answers.

**DO**...demonstrate authentic spirituality, a clear distinction from cultural “Christianity.” Let your friends see the differences Jesus makes in your life.

**DO**...share your faith story with humility and also talk about God's work in your daily life.

**DO**...focus on internal spiritual transformation rather than outward rituals or religious conformity.

**DO**...treat the Bible respectfully since Hindus regard it as a holy book.

**DO**...discuss biblical concepts like love, humility, prayer, sin, eternity and forgiveness. Focus on practical applications to life.

**DON'T**...imply that following Jesus means rejecting one's birth family and culture.

**DON'T**...criticize Hindu traditions (worship of the cow, arranged marriages, caste system, etc.).

**DON'T**...let sharing the gospel become the only motive for your relationships or service.

**DON'T**...argue or make religious comparisons. Your goal is not to win a debate.

**DON'T**...push your friend to make a faith decision. Be patient and allow God to work.

**DON'T**...assume all South Asian “Christians” have a personal relationship with Christ. Take time to get to know them and ask questions that will help clarify this issue.

**DON'T**...assume that all South Asian church events or individual believers will automatically help you communicate the gospel to your Hindu friends. Depending on their approach, some may produce a negative reaction.