

New Staff shares how her Hindu life became Christ's

Moli* recently joined Cru staff at our January New Staff Orientation. She's been an intern with Cru, and will keep working in the Dallas area as a staff with Bridges, Cru's outreach to international students. She shared her story at the commissioning service for new staff of how God led her from being a Hindu to a Christ-follower. Here is her story.

"I grew up in a Hindu family in a Muslim country. I believed that all gods are one - a common Hindu belief. I believed in peace among all religions. I had a "you do you" mindset, and a worldview where one's religion is determined by the culture of one's family. I was never really a devout Hindu, but I generally believed in gods and prayed to Hindu ones sometimes.

As a young child, I often felt lonely, but as I grew I saw I had a lot of love to give. Eventually, I wasn't lonely anymore because I had true and genuine friends and was well loved by my family. I didn't "need" salvation, I was content with how okay my life was.

During my junior year of high school, I had two back-to-back encounters with Christ as a Hindu. In the first one, I heard some words that little-Hindu-me was taken aback by...I heard, "Jesus just made His home in my heart." I felt a shift in my heart too. But I was very much in resistance and was basically trying to convince myself that this is just "a glitch in my system," and I'll get over it tomorrow.



The next day, moments after I was vehemently defending the notion that "all gods are one" to a friend online, God revealed His beauty to me when no one was around by reminding me of an experience I had with Him when I was 9 years old when I felt that "Jesus just visited me and left." Not knowing I could do this prior to this event, I began conversing with Jesus and processing my awe of these things He revealed to me. I was in awe of His patience to wait for me and the fact that He felt closer and deeper than religion. And then, Jesus addressed the experience I had as a child. He said, "You thought I had visited you and then left. I never left you, I will never leave you." Then I said, "I want to be with You forever," and my life with Jesus began that day.

Two months after I fell in love with who Jesus is, I finally truly learned about what He had done for me. A teacher preached to a big group of us about the agonizing reality of what my new friend, Jesus, had to go through when He died for me on the cross. He went into excruciating detail about what being nailed to the cross with a crown



of thorns had actually done to Jesus's mind and body. I remember sitting there and feeling my heart sink. And then my teacher said, Jesus died the death of a sinner. But Jesus didn't sin during His time on earth. I am a sinner. I have offended God and offended people made in God's image. Jesus died my death, one that He had not deserved but I had.

Seeing Jesus's unwavering choice to take my place on the cross showed me that God hadn't been waiting for me since I was a child, but from before time began. I realized His love was deeper than what I had understood. By the Holy Spirit, I finally understood the gospel and why it was good news. I understood what it meant that Jesus defeated death to bring us true life in and with Him. Now, the gospel is my life message and continues to be the best news of my life; I'm excited to share about Him until the day He calls me home."

Rochelle and I will join a mission trip to Japan with Cru's Church Movements, June 23rd to July 10th. We will share the gospel and help a new church being planted in Tokyo. We will share more about the trip in our next letter.

Prayer Requests

1. Pray for the safety and fruitfulness of Cru staff and students on spring break mission trips.
2. Pray for us as we plan and prepare for our mission trip to Tokyo.
3. Pray for Rochelle and me and the rest of the Sending Team in this busy application season. Hundreds of students are applying to be interns, part time or full time staff by sending in their information and references. Pray for health and strength for our team.

Thank you for partnering with us in ministry so people like Moli* can experience the truth, the deep love of Christ and the joy of ministry. May you also feel the love of Christ afresh as you celebrate Easter! He is risen Indeed!

*With love in Jesus,
Steve & Rochelle*

*name changed to preserve security