# COMBATING the CULTS

## a four part series exploring

jehovah's witnesses | scientology | mormonism | international churches of christ



# part 1 jehovah's witnesses

## **COMBATING** the **CULTS**

### PART 1 - Jehovah's Witnesses

Most born-again Christians feel unequipped to share the gospel with cult members. There's hope, however. Our responses to cultists can be both concise and deeply spiritual. Thank you for subscribing to this E-Book four-part series on some of the more popular and proselytizing cult groups in America. As you faithfully proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to other, this is to help you understand cultic beliefs and how to respond powerfully to their "mission" efforts.

#### Bible Wisdom and The Jehovah's Witnesses

Members of The Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, better known as "Jehovah's Witnesses", are recognized worldwide for their fervent proselytization. Famous Jehovah's Witnesses have included the musical artists Prince and the Jackson family, tennis pros Venus and Serena Williams, and others raised in the cult who separated as adults, including President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Spice Girl Geri Halliwell, comedian Damon Wayans and actor/music star Donald Glover.

Outwardly, the Witnesses are devoted, kind people, who self-identify as Christians. The official Watch Tower website proclaims, "We do our best to imitate Jesus Christ and are proud to be called Christians." The truth, however, is that in doctrine and practice, the Witnesses diverge widely from orthodox, historic Christian beliefs.

In the United States, 1.3 million people are members of this cult. Witnesses abstain utterly from politics, military service, and from receiving blood transfusions. In most cases, governments tolerate Watch Tower members as quiet, restrained citizens. At other times, the Witnesses have been persecuted, even martyred, for their beliefs.

To further the cult, members are leaned on heavily to knock on doors to distribute Watch Tower literature—in fact, the cult tries to visit each and every home in America, at least once every several years, to proselytize.

Bizarrely, they aren't hoping to lead many converts to Heaven, since the Witnesses teach that only 144,000 people can ever enter Heaven, and that other less worthy Witnesses will live on a restored Earth when Jesus returns. This is false doctrine, as the 144,000 persons mentioned in Revelation 7:1-8 are Jewish and descended from Israel's 12 tribes, and since Jesus Christ has made an amazing promise that anyone who trusts Him for salvation will be enthroned in Heaven alongside Him (Revelation 3:21).

**Key to Combating Cults: 1 Timothy** 

"... The Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer."

-- 1 Timothy 4:1-5 [NASB]

Cults have been around since the most ancient of times, as the Apostle Paul warned his charge Timothy. Where Timothy would pastor churches and develop other pastors, he and all he led would have to deal with cultic groups. Note the biblical hallmarks of a cult:

Cults can descend from true Christian doctrine, changing it to demonic-inspired heresy (1 Tim 4:1)

**Cult leaders are liars with deadened consciences (1 Tim 4:2)** 

Cults control their members by controlling marriage/sexual relations and dietary choices (1 Tim 4:3)

A cult is simply, quickly assessed, according to this Bible passage. Are group members following heretical teachings and controlled by manipulated diets and relationships? If so, according to the scriptures, a cult is revealed. The Watch Tower society members likewise:

- 1 Deny the divinity of Jesus Christ and teach salvation by works, rather than by trusting in Jesus's death and resurrection (a different "gospel", from heretical teaching)
- Witnesses are to marry only within the cult, indeed, even family members who leave are to be "disfellowshipped" or utterly shunned and avoided (restricted marriages)
- Forbid the eating of blood or blood products, for example, kosher meat is preferable and some even are vegetarian in an effort to please Jehovah (restricted diets)

#### The Jehovah's Witnesses Are Strengthening in Asia

In Kathmandu, the plains of Nepal, and other regions where RUN Global outreach is strong, the Jehovah's Witnesses are gaining power. Australian Jehovah's Witnesses have targeted Nepal for their awful "outreach" that compels "true believers" to work hard to strive for blessing, while withdrawing from former relationships and shunning those who try to leave their cult. Did you know that cult members avoid all names for God except Jehovah, and therefore say that Jesus is not divine but a mere "agent" of Jehovah, who shows us how to be saved by works?

It can be frustrating to see these Australian "missionaries" working hard on the Nepali streets. The glorious name of Jesus, the Name that is our shelter and tower, that we cry out to for healing, strength and grace, is not on the lips of these cultists who live in darkness.

These cultists are not "Berean" (searching the scriptures to check against strange doctrines, as in Acts 17:10-12) and they rely instead on Watch Tower Society literature to interpret the scriptures for them and dictate all of their beliefs. We have sorrow for the sad lives and doctrine of the Jehovah's Witnesses, but we are striving to see their same potential recruits come to Jesus Christ for eternal life instead.

We stand strong at RUN Global, knowing that this battle is not physical but spiritual (Ephesians 6). And we must take spiritual strength in the Lord when we see Jehovah's Witnesses out proselytizing in many parts of South Asia, but never born again Christians, apart from our own RUN team members.

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist on the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm."

-- Ephesians 6:12-13

#### Answering the Jehovah's Witnesses

The primary answer to cult members whom you meet is, thankfully, a simple and direct answer: Jesus Saves. The biblical gospel is that according to prophecies in the Hebrew scriptures, Jesus appeared, suffered, died, and rose for all human sin. In His glorious resurrection, He was seen many times by eyewitnesses (1 Corinthians 15). Salvation is a free gift received when an individual trusts Jesus for eternal life, rather than their own good deeds and merits (John 1:12, 3:16, 5:24; Romans 6:23).

Put differently, a statement like this one could be the most important thing you ever tell a Jehovah's Witness:

"Heaven is a perfect place, and only morally perfect people can live there. Moral perfection doesn't come from working hard, it comes from trusting Jesus Christ, not ourselves, for salvation. Jesus died on the cross for our sin, guilt and shame, then rose from the dead forever. Anyone who trusts Him has eternal life!"

We do not need to know every detail of cultic belief to be an effective evangelist to the Jehovah's Witnesses. We need simply to share the gospel, concisely and clearly. It takes just a few moments to share the good news that God loves everyone so much, He died and rose for their sin (John 3:16), and the biblical response for eternal life is even simpler:

# TRUST JESUS



# part 2 mormonism

## **COMBATING** the **CULTS**

#### Part 2 - Mormonism

In this E-Book series from the world mission group, RUN Global, we are exploring the doctrines and practices of some of the busiest and most popular cults in America. Thankfully, our solutions to the problem of cults are powerful, simple, and spiritual.

#### **Bible Wisdom and The Mormons**

Members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, better known as "Mormons", are known for their proselytization, especially the young people who embark on two-year life internships as evangelizing "elders". Famous Mormons include U.S. Senators Mitt Romney and Orrin Hatch, conservative radio/TV host Glenn Beck, actress Katherine Heigl, singer/actor David Archuleta (who served in Chile as a witnessing "elder"), and other performers including Ricky Schroder, Gladys Knight, and Donny and Marie Osmond.

Mormons are known as kind, gentle people, who raise large families and emphasize strong morals. The truth is darker, and should cause concern for members of this cult, who boast nearly 6.6 million adherents in the U.S. alone.

Since Mormons teach that believers will bear countless "heavenly children" after this life, LDS members strongly emphasize childbearing and large families, one cause of the high rates of alcoholism and suicide among those devout Mormon women who struggle to conceive.<sup>1</sup>

Mormons also teach that a great apostasy from "the original Christian principles" began soon after Jesus Christ ascended to Heaven. Put differently, the Bible is not as trustworthy as the 19th century documents issued by founder Joseph Smith, including The Book of Mormon,

Doctrine and Covenants and the Pearl of Great Price. Smith's writings are a mix of Bible excerpts and imaginative veering from Bible truth and from sound research (for example, teaching that Jesus appeared after His resurrection throughout the Americas, to people groups for whom there is no trace of any known history or archaeology).

To further the cult, all male members are expected to go on mission for two years between ages 19 and 26, and many female members join them. In a reverse of Christian bravery to unreached people groups, Mormon parents fervently hope and pray their children will serve in safe locations and not face danger overseas, a view parodied in the satirical and popular Broadway musical, The Book of Mormon.

Mormons are focused on imitating Jesus in working hard and being good, leading to concepts such as "When I trusted Jesus for salvation, He put me on a path. If I don't finish well, I won't be saved." It is sad to hear of millions of cult members who are missing Bible truth and the free gift of God. As Jesus Christ said, anyone who trusts Him for salvation finds true rest. His demands for us are easy and light (Matthew 11:28-30).

#### **Bible Prompting and Our Response**

As we explored in **Combating Cults: Part I-Jehovah's Witnesses**, cults are known to Bible believers by their practices and beliefs:

"... The Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron, who forbid marriage and advocate abstaining from foods which God has created to be gratefully shared in by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with gratitude; for it is sanctified by means of the word of God and prayer."

— 1 Timothy 4:1-5 [NASB]

1 Timothy informs us as Christians how **demonic doctrines** may *seem* Christian in nature, but involve cultic control, particularly over **marriage** and **diet**:

- 1 Mormons follow Jesus as an example, and claim Him as Savior, but certainly teach salvation by works, including proselytizing and moral lifestyles, rather than by trusting in Jesus's death and resurrection (a different "gospel" from heretical teaching)
- Mormon young people experience intense pressure to commit to two-year missions, while those singles (even engaged singles) on mission must wait the two years to marry, to be more devoted to their mission to the world (restricting marriage)
- Mormons famously have disallowed hot drinks, alcohol, or "too much" meat, a restriction that has loosened only slightly in recent years, with the leadership forbidding green tea and "drinks ending in -ccino" as recently as 2019 (restricted diet)

Thankfully, there is a clear-cut way to help yourself and others understand the true biblical balance between faith, grace and obedience to Bible law/good deeds/moral behavior (often called "works"):

**Salvation** is eternal life as a **free gift**, received by trusting Jesus's atoning death and resurrection for our sin (Romans 6:23)

Sanctification is the process of becoming more like Jesus in His goodness and moral perfection and will not be completed until we receive an astonishing transformation in person from Jesus Christ Himself (Philippians 1:6)

Cult groups and non-Christian religions do the same thing, confusing salvation with sanctification and vice versa. So cults tend to say one must become sanctified by one's effort to be saved, where Christians trust Jesus only, not their own efforts, for Heaven.

#### The Cults Infest Nations Overseas, Too

American Christians tend to think of religious cults as faraway things from daily life, that affect only the mentally distressed, and somewhere else. But in South Asia, cults are on the rise and hearts and minds are being quickly captured by cults—or the gospel with your help.

For example, RUN Global's President, Mike Keator, recalled one occasion he was enjoying a ride on a "Tempo", an electric bus, after a house church meeting in Biratnagar, Nepal. Mike was witnessing to the driver, who spoke English well, when several fellows in the back of the bus said they were Christians and on their way to a church meeting.

These men seemed friendly and were obviously enthusiastic. Mike accepted an invitation to their church, only to find they were members of a cult with bizarre doctrine, the *World Mission Society Church of God*, based in Korea. This cult features a Mother Goddess alongside their father God figure, wolves in sheep's clothing indeed (Matthew 7).

The World Mission Society cult is growing rapidly in South Asia, and tends to prey on Christians who are weak in God's Word. Cultists have even been found following behind the RUN Global team members as they evangelize, boldly entering into local homes to snatch believers away from the true gospel!

"Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves."

-- Matthew 7:15

part 3
scientology

## **COMBATING** the **CULTS**

### Part 3 - Scientology

Scientologists have been everywhere in the media, lately, or so it seems. Who are they, and what is the real root of this modern cult that mixes Sci-Fi scenarios with programming and total control of its members?

#### **Bible Wisdom and Scientology**

Members of *The Church of Scientology* are expected to spend hours and days proselytizing, and to increase their public reach, including heavily recruiting celebrities, even to offices designed for outreach called "Celebrity Centers". Famous scientologists include the actors Tom Cruise, John Travolta, Kirstie Alley, Anne Archer, Juliette Lewis, and Catherine Bell, musicians Issac Hayes, Doug E. Fresh, and Chick Corea, and popular news anchor Greta Van Susteren. There's also former member and television star Leah Remini, who has hosted many ex-cult members to debunk Scientology claims.



Even these world influencers have trouble leaving the cult, though, as Scientology aggressively seeks to destroy through litigation and character assassination those who depart the group, and especially, those who speak publicly against them.

The Scientologist demographic is for people with spare income, since advancement through the levels of Scientology is costly. Cultists are charged for \$800-per-hour sessions to "audit" away the clinging remains of experiences from past lives. Founder L. Ron Hubbard claimed that Scientology practice eliminates the need for professional counseling and can cure any kind of physical or mental ailment, as well as help members to become self-actualized and almost godlike in their personal power.

One Scientology official has claimed that 3.5 million Americans are members of the Scientology Church, but the actual number of practicing members has proved to be far lower<sup>1</sup>. And only a percentage of these can afford the time and expense to achieve the highest levels of Scientology, where these acolytes learn "the truth" as Hubbard claimed, how many millions of years ago a group of aliens outside spacetime and our physical universe plotted to take over the universe, via genetic implants in humans and aliens, for telepathic mind control.

Those who wish to escape the coming universal thermonuclear apocalypse need to avoid radiation poisoning and "clear" their mind of "past life engrams" through Scientology auditing and life practice.

#### Does Scientology Fit the 1 Timothy Profile?

As discussed in *Combating the Cults: Parts I and II*, the book of 1 Timothy provides a three-part template for understanding cults: non-biblical doctrine, controlling marriage relationships and controlling food, all weap-onized to control cult members. How does Scientology fit this profile?

- 1 Scientologists deny the reality that each person dies and then is judged by Jesus Christ (Hebrews 9:27-28) and teaches reincarnation and the ability (as in all non-Christian religions!) to save oneself by one's own actions (a different "gospel" of heretical doctrine, and one with demonic origins as per 1 Timothy, as founder L. Rob Hubbard was an enthusiastic occultist)
- The more one advances in the levels of Scientology, the more likely one will forsake intimacy and even contact with any non-cult family and friends, and second generation Scientologists are matchmade into arranged marriages (restricted marriages as in 1 Tim 4)
- 3 Scientology forbids consuming alcohol before, during, and after auditing and training, and Scientologists increase their intake of niacin (to prevent radiation sickness) up to levels that cause severe reactions including skin irritation, headaches, and dizziness, plus those who endure a "Purification Rundown" drink vegetable oils with water, salt, and potassium (restricted diets as in 1 Tim 4)

#### **Hindus Are Exposed to Cults Overseas**

While Scientologists are captured by a "revelation" that they need to shed the weight of past lives, their viewpoint is not original. Hinduism has taught for centuries that their religious caste system is driven by how one's standing at birth was predetermined by sin in a past life.

The Internet has numerous exposes of Scientology lies, many written by ex-cult members. Likewise, the Internet, with its many religious concepts, may drive a massive shift in religion among Hindus, exposed for the first time to alternative views on sin and salvation.

There's no arguing for an entitlement system for the Hindu poor—according to the caste system, the poor are poor because they deserve to suffer for their horrible (if unknown) past sin! And how dare Christians try to intervene to tell the lower castes they deserve better, or try to end human misery such as prostitution or human trafficking—it's interfering with the religious journey of the lower castes to give them a leg up. The poor overseas who die young of disease or abuse are simply taking another turn of karma's wheel. It's foolish to add value to their lives.

But the prevalence of the Internet, and the availability of social media to many of the world's poor via inexpensive smartphones, is showing many Hindus that people elsewhere think differently about free choice and destiny. One estimate predicts that in the coming years, as many as 300 million Hindus may walk away from their ancient traditions to pursue other forms of spirituality. Unfortunately, cults are stepping into this vacuum, quickly multiplying overseas.

You might be surprised to hear about a different cult gaining ground in Asia. **The Unification Church**, best known as "The Moonies", have all but disappeared from American life, with their mass marriages and personality cult focused on the now-deceased cult leader Sun Myung Moon, who claimed to be the Messiah. And they still have a global credibility problem, as Moon was convicted and jailed in the U.S. for tax fraud and conspiracy, and was under suspicion in other nations for decades. But this strong cult is now gaining converts quickly in Asia.

Pretty young Moonie women surround those young men who show interest, and only later will the men realize how the cult plans to control most aspects of their lives, including their cult marriages (1 Timothy 4). Plus one can become a Moonie without ever renouncing Hinduism, Buddhism or Islam.

#### **Answering the Scientologists and Moonies**

One key to understanding Scientology, and also faith, salvation and the assurance of the Christian believer, is in a clear understanding of the meaning of repentance. The word repentance comes from the Greek word "metanoia", which means to change one's mind or way of thinking (which is different from changing one's lifestyle or behavior, although the first, mental change often drives the second lifestyle change).

Repentance is a necessary precursor to salvation, for a person who realizes they are insufficient to perfect themselves morally (to be able to live in a Heavenly utopia without hurting others). Also necessary to those who change their mind to decide both that Jesus is able to save and to trust in Jesus instead of themselves, is saved. God-inspired repentance (changing the mind about good works and salvation) leads to salvation by trust in Jesus. A verse that tells us repentance leads to salvation also denies that repentance is simply sorrow for sin or contrition

(2 Corinthians 7:10).

It is repentance, therefore, that underpins the beliefs and lives of Moonies, Scientologists and Christians.

A Christian answering a Scientologist can therefore keep their response

## SCIENTOLOGIST THINK

"Ah! I was wrong about my life and my problems. Once I think properly about my past lives and my behaviors, I will perfect myself and escape the coming trouble!"

# **MOONIE CULTIST THINK**

"Ah! Reverend Moon was the Messiah and I can trust his teachings, to explain proper living for the Kingdom of God!"

# CHRISTIANS THINK

"Ah! I was wrong to think I could perfect myself morally by religion or best efforts. Now I've changed my mind, I know that Jesus Christ died a horrible death by torture on the cross, to pay for my sin, guilt, shame and condemnation. Jesus took the punishment I deserve and instead of thinking I can perfect myself, I've changed my mind—Jesus saves!"

#### simple:

"Heaven is a perfect place for perfect people only. Trust Jesus today for eternal life. He died and rose to pay for our sin. Trust Him!"

"I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his trickery, your minds will be led astray from sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if one comes and preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted, this you tolerate very well!"

-- 2 Corinthians 11:3-4 [NASB]

# part 4 international churches of christ

## **COMBATING** the **CULTS**

### Part 4 - The Internation Churches of Christ

In this, our final portion of this E-Book series, we look at a cult that has been growing in influence since the 1980's, and we sum up much of what we've learned about the cults and the Bible's emphasis on clarity and purity of the gospel.

#### Bible Wisdom and The International Churches of Christ

Members of **The International Churches of Christ** are some of the nicest and gentlest people you'll meet, with a love that makes you want to join their church movement—until you learn what their churches are teaching, mostly privately in small group settings.

The most well-known member is cult leader Kip McKean, who started a rapidly growing church movement in Boston, Massachusetts, by asking members of the Lexington Church of Christ to "redefine their commitment in Christ" -- to focus on intense, controlling discipleship that stilfes freedom of thought, and for every church member. Someone in fellowship who doesn't give their all "is not getting it" and their fellow members disdain them.

The church grew quickly until McKean renamed his movement "The Boston Church of Christ", and the "discipleship" included lines of descent from McKean to every church member, each one pressured to give very sacrificially and live at all times for increasing the church membership.

In the mid-1980's, McKean led both the Boston church movement and the Crossroads church movement eventually splitting both from the mainstream Churches of Christ to become the International Church of Christ. By the 1990's, his authority came under question due to the immense pressure placed on members to give to missions and continue to add new members to the church. McKean then resigned from the International Churches of Christ, while continuing to lead the movement and hide the former churches under new names like "[City Name] International Christian Church".

This cult has destroyed families and their pattern of behavior is worth watching. Visit an **International Christian Church (ICC)** and you'll meet friendly, loving people. Hugs are prevalent at meetings and most of the sermons sound as solid as anything you'll enjoy at an evangelical church.

But once a member joins small group fellowship in the cult, extreme peer pressure is used to get members to commit more fully, to spend most of their former free time in discipleship with church members. Discipleship includes blushingly intimate questions that most Christians would not ask, even in private accountability sessions, and the knowledge that salvation is only found inside the ICC movement.

Over time, it is also explained to the aspiring cult member that only water baptism in an International Christian Church saves, that is, any other person baptized a member in any other church on Earth is headed for Hell.



Water baptism, of course, does not save souls as taught by the ICC, but rather represents the Christian believer's full identification with Jesus as Lord:

- 1 The Greek word "baptizo" literally means "identification with, immersion within"
- Baptism is still a Jewish ritual, the final step of commitment for a Gentile convert to Judaism to renounce all other gods
- 3 Since Jewish baptism is one's personal testimony of the God of Israel, Christian baptism is the believer's testimony that Jesus is also truly God!
- 4 John's baptism identified people with repentance (so the Pharisees who baptized Gentiles as Jews were astonished they didn't meet the need for John's baptism!)
- Jesus said John's baptism on Him would "fulfill all righteousness", showing His identification as the true God, utterly righteous!

#### Would We Label ICC Members as Cult Members?

As discussed earlier in the *Combating the Cults* series, 1 Timothy 4 explains how cults control marriage, food and drink, things made by God for pleasure and purpose, while filling the minds of their followers with strange doctrines. Certainly the International Christian Churches teaches heretical doctrine (none are saved outside their churches, water baptism saves inside their churches) while monitoring intently the Bible study, prayer lives and all other aspects of life, including in-cult marriages and eating "right" as defined by the ICC and Kip McKean.

In the same vein, the ICC follows an established cult pattern where:

- 1) A charismatic leader reveals their...
- 2) transcendent belief system that really includes...
- 3) systems of member control and...
- 4) systems of influence outside the cult

And while the ICC embraces most of the main tenets of the historic church, by teaching it is the only true church, and by remaining highly authoritarian with immense control over members' lives, those who leave this cult are often devastated, avoiding fellowship with genuine Christian churches for years to come. How can a young ICC member relate to even those members of their family who are born again, but in their opinion, with the cult involved?

#### **Snapping Back**

How can American Christians effectively help ICC members? One technique advocated by cult busters is called "Snapping Back".

To snap a cult member back is to gently remind them of a time when they weren't pressured by an all-controlling, all-consuming cult lifestyle. Simple questions are asked, the questioner then waiting silently and patiently as the cult member, Lord willing, begins to snap back to happier times:

"What was a favorite hobby of yours when you were a teen?"

"When you were little, what kinds of fun activities did you do with your family?"

"Can you remember times when you felt more relaxed about life in general than you do now?"

Besides helping cultists think about their pre-cult lives, we always should also rely on simple gospel presentations. Here is a quick summary of what we've learned through this E-Book series:

Avoid Christian jargon and confusion by sticking to the clear gospel that "According to prophecy, Jesus Christ suffered, died and rose for human sin, and was seen by eyewitnesses to His resurrection." (1 Cor 15:1-8)

The correct response to the gospel is as little as two words you can tell a cult member, "Trust Jesus." (John 5:24)

Heaven is a perfect place, and Jesus will perfect those who trust in Him, to be able to live there. Salvation doesn't come from working hard, it comes from trusting Jesus Christ, not ourselves, for salvation. (Romans 6:23)

In contrast to salvation, sanctification or growing in holiness, comes in part on Earth, but more fully when the Christian meets Jesus to be personally transformed for Heaven, to absolute moral perfection, never hurting anyone ever again. (Revelation 21:4)

We do not need to know every detail of cultic belief to be an effective evangelist. We do need to share the gospel, concisely and clearly, and allow others to make their own decisions whether to trust Jesus. (Romans 10:14)

The step between hearing the good news of Jesus and trusting Jesus for salvation is repentance, which literally means "to change one's mind about an issue". Any cult member who changes their mind that the cult can save their souls is ripe to think instead about our glorious Lord Jesus Christ as Savior! (2 Cor 7:10)

One step to help a cultist repent is to assist them gently in snapping back to a time when their life was free of cultic entanglement, helping them to see instead a lighter yoke. (Matthew 11:28-30)

#### A New Hope

We've discussed only a few of the many world cults in this E-Book! We at RUN Global have Hindus, Buddhists and Muslims, teeming millions of them, aggressively pushing their agendas in India and Nepal. And although the Hindu and Buddhist growth rates are small, very few Asian Christians are trained in challenging their false teachings.

But we thank God that Jesus gives us power in teaching and in witnessing. Many of the lost are trusting Jesus for salvation and are baptized publicly, renouncing all false gods and exposing themselves to persecution, even joyfully, for the sake of God's call in Christ (Philippians 3). We praise God for your support of RUN Global ministries!

"But whatever things were gain to me, these things I have counted as loss because of Christ . . . that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain to the resurrection from the dead." -- Philippians 3:7-11 [NASB]

RUN Global exists specifically to activate and mobilize the body of Christ to RUN to finish the task of reaching the world with the gospel of Christ. RUN stands for Reach the Unreached NOW! At RUN Global, we believe the Great Commission task can be finished in our lifetime, if we RUN!

Focused on reaching the unreached in Nepal and Northern India RUN Global native missionaries and trainers risk their lives to share the gospel messages in some of the most remote unreached populations in the world.

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