

# Birth

For most parents, the day that your child is born stands out as a day marked by the miraculous. The moment I heard my son scream, my heart leapt like it had received an electric shock. When the nurse carried him out for me to hold for the first time, I could hardly contain my emotions. I am still in awe at the beauty, blessing, and miracle that children are.

Few things in life are as demanding and rewarding as raising children. The hopes and joys of our fathers and mothers are interwoven into nearly all our lives. Generally speaking, for Hindus, having children is often seen as more of a responsibility than a choice. While this certainly places undue pressure on some couples, it also points to

the very high value that Hindus place on family as the center of life in this world.

One study of Hindu families in India, identified that the average Hindu felt connected to over eighty immediate and extended family members.

## *How can we pray*

**Just as God spoke to Jeremiah, “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you...,” pray that Hindus will discover that Jesus knows their innermost being and longs to connect them with their destiny.**

— JEREMIAH 1:5

**Pray that Hindu children will discover the good news of Jesus early in their lives so that they may devote as much as possible to serving Him and be able to enjoy the peace that comes from Jesus alone.**

— MATTHEW 7:7

**Pray that Hindu children will be protected and that they will be granted the grace to turn their hearts towards God and find Him.**

— JOHN 4:10