



7 Krishna delivers Kaliya

In the river Yamuna was a huge lake
There lived Kaliya, a wicked snake
He spread his poison everywhere
Dangerous black fumes filled the air.

The boys and cows drank that water one day
Krishna found their bodies along the way.
His loving glance revived them in a moment
He knows everything past, future and present.

Krishna climbed a big Kadamba tree.
And tied His waist belt tightly.
Like a blue lotus, speckled with gold
Krishna's beauty was a sight to behold

Jumping into the water, He swam around.
Kaliya was furious, hearing the sound.
Swimming like a powerful elephant
Enraging the envious gigantic serpent

From Kaliya's nostrils great flames blazed.
From his many hoods cruel eyes gazed
He caught Krishna in his coils so tight
This was the beginning of a very long fight.

The cowherd men were full of grief
Mother Yashoda trembled like a leaf
The cows, bulls and calves shook with fear
To everyone's heart, Krishna was very dear

The struggle went on for very long
Kaliya's grip was very strong
The Brijabasis had all gathered there
Only Balarama was watching without a care.

He told the Brijabasis "Do not lament.
Listen to my words and be patient
Krishna will smash Kaliya's pride
He is stronger than death personified."

In a moment Krishna did slip
Out of cruel Kaliya's vicious grip
He gave the devotees a loving glance
And then began an amazing dance

Krishna jumped from hood to hood
Like a graceful dancer He stood
Kaliya's anger was like red hot coal
But now Krishna was in complete control.

The heavenly beings played music so sweet
As He crushed Kaliya's pride with His lotus feet
The Nagapatnis felt sad and began to pray
"Krishna please save our husband today."

"You've purified Him with Your dance
Now bless him with Your merciful glance!"
Hearing the prayers of His devotees
Krishna smiled and felt very pleased:

Kaliya had become humble and meek
In a gentle voice he began to speak
"O Lord my anger was like blazing fire
Now punish me or save me as You desire"

Kaliya was ordered to leave without delay
Thus Krishna forgave him and sent him away
The Yamuna water became clear and pure
The cowherd boys played there once more.



Activity Time

Discussion:

All these people are praying

What do you think about their prayers ?



Oh Lord let me sell 100
boxes of fruits today,
I'll offer you 5 coconuts



Thank You Lord by Your mercy
I am well again



O Krishna make me Your devotee
Let me understand what You
want me to do with my life



You are the supreme father please
help me give up my bad habits
I am helpless.



Krishna please forgive our husband.
Kaliya is very fortunate to have the
dust of your lotus feet.



O Lord I have an exam today
Please let there be questions only
from the sections, which I have
studied

Prayer is when we talk to God
It is important to understand why we pray
Do we pray only for ourselves?
Do we pray because we want something?
Do we pray because we are sad?
Do we pray whenever we feel like?
Do we pray as a ritual?
Do we follow the prayers with proper actions?

All these people are praying to Krishna, which is
very good.
We must remember that the Lord knows what is
best for us.



How did Krishna's dance help Kaliya?

Was Krishna pleased by the prayers of the Nagapatanis?

The easiest and the simplest prayer is .

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It is easy to pray for ourselves because we understand our problems. When we take the trouble to understand others' problems and pray for them the Lord is very pleased.

Let's pray for



- Everyone sit in a circle .
- Pass a picture of Krishna to the singing of the Hare Krishna mahamantra.
- When the singing stops, the child who has the Krishna picture in his hand stops for a minute and thinks of someone he would like to pray for.
- He then says a little prayer for that person.
- The music starts and the picture is passed.... continue until everyone has had a turn to pray.

Bookmark



On the coloured page you will find an outline of Krishna's lotus foot. Cut it out and decorate it to make a bookmark. Write a special prayer you want to offer to Krishna

