

name: _____

Is *kirtan* a devotional practice? Why or why not?

Yes. Kirtan is chanting the names of the Hindu gods and goddesses. It is done with great love, as an offering to the divine, and as a way of purifying our minds and bodies.

If you had to explain what the *Bhagavad Gita* is to a total stranger, what would you say?

The Bhagavad Gita is one of the most widely read spiritual texts in the world. It was written in ancient India, before the time of Jesus. It is a dialogue between one of the incarnations of God and a powerful warrior. The warrior does not want to go into battle and kill his friends and relatives. The text is a profound teaching on the nature of reality, the meaning of human life, and how to be in relationship with God.

Using an example from your own life, explain what Lord Krishna means when he tells Arjuna to renounce the fruit of his actions.

When I am taking a class, I can do my best without being attached to the grade or to what I will do with what I learn. When I have a disagreement with a friend, I can be honest and try to be the best friend I can, but I can let go of whether or not they will agree with me. Renouncing the fruit of my actions doesn't mean not caring or not doing my best. It means offering my best but knowing that the outcome is beyond my control.

Write a short paragraph about one thing that stood out for you in the excerpt from David Haberman's book *Journey Through the Twelve Forests*.

Did you read it???!!! ☺

