



December 2016

‘O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.’ Psalm 8v9

Nepal

Thursday 1 December

TLM Nepal has been providing support amongst earthquake affected individuals, but financial resources are limited and they cannot support everyone in need. Pray for their advocacy on behalf of people affected by leprosy and disabilities for benefits from other institutions for people affected by the earthquake.

Friday 2 December

In 2015, a new project was launched in partnership with International Nepal Fellowship (INF) to increase the capacity of Government health staff in diagnosing and treating leprosy. Please pray for the success of this project.

Saturday 3 / Sunday 4 December

The earthquakes in Nepal have weakened the land and the infrastructure especially in the Central Development Region, resulting in dangerous terrains at higher risk of landslides. TLM Nepal staff have to travel to risky areas and remote locations in these terrains so please continue to pray for their safety and wellbeing.

Really Good Gifts

Monday 5 December

Yasin, 10 years old, from Bangladesh was gifted a **back to school kit** including a school bag, exercise books and pens to last all year. He is now very happy he can go to school every day and dreams of becoming an engineer. Pray that Yasin never gives up on his dreams and that he gains the qualifications he needs to become an engineer one day.

Tuesday 6 December

Sume was 9 years old when she found patches on her face and a few months later her hand began to tighten and claw. She has now received **reconstructive hand surgery** and has recovered well. She is very hopeful about her future. "If I could get a job somewhere one day, I would be very happy. But first I need to do physio. I want my hand to get well," she says. Pray Sume continues with her daily physiotherapy and finishes school.

Wednesday 7 December

In PNG we rely on donations to train volunteers to go into the community to find and diagnosis people with leprosy. This can be done through the gift of training a village health volunteer and as a result we have reached many more people preventing disability. We praise these village health volunteers for the help and support they give in their communities.

Thursday 8 December

Rani is 13 years old and she needs much help for her schooling. She was given the gift of **education for a girl** through the catch them young programme. This programme provides everything Rani needs for school including tuition fees, uniform, books and pens. Her attendance at the school is monitored and over 85% of children in the programme achieved distinctions last year. For girls in this community education really does mean everything and with your continued support we can reach even more people. Praise God that Rani has this opportunity.

Friday 9 December

Chandni is 17 years old and has been gifted a **residential scholarship** and now studies a computer course at Faizabad Vocational Training centre. She says 'Thank you to everyone for supporting me.' Pray that Chandni understands her course well and excels in her class.

Saturday 10 / Sunday 11 December

A day in hospital is a truly wonderful gift. For 12 year old Nasrin it is a lifeline as she must stay in hospital for several months as she is treated for leprosy. Praise that we can be there when she needs us. Pray that she feels well rested during her stay at the hospital.

Volunteers/Supporters

Monday 12 December

Throughout the year we have received many hundreds of hours from volunteers in our Auckland Office. Their expertise and commitment is greatly appreciated. Today we especially thank Betti Reddell, our administration and stamp co-ordinator. Pray she will receive blessings from the Lord for her long term voluntary service.

Tuesday 13 December

Praise and thanks today are for our wonderful mail out volunteers – Rowan Spackman, Ron & Cynthia Butler, Josie Kampen, Carole Warnock, Lynn Gautier and Ellen Butland - who over the course of a year come into the office many times to assist with mail outs as well as other administration tasks.

Wednesday 14 December

Praise for the thousands of prayers that are regularly offered by New Zealanders to the Lord on behalf of leprosy-affected individuals and families. Pray that more people will come forward so that people affected by leprosy can be covered in prayer.

Thursday 15 December

We praise the volunteers we have at the moment

who are helping with the Really Good Gifts – Joanne Evans, Jenny Lee, Eric Chong, Kanchan Dayal, Priyamvtha Balasubramani, Mafoozia Iqbal and Manisha Das. They have provided help such as inputting data, folding letters, sending out RGG cards and receipts and much more.

Friday 16 December

Youth Advocates around the country are happy to be asked to talk in churches, clubs and other venues/events about their experiences viewing the Leprosy Mission's work in Nepal. Pray that more churches and organisations will make themselves available to learn more about our work.

Saturday 17 / Sunday 18 December

Praise the number of Really Good Gifts supporters who have generously gifted extraordinary gifts this year. Our projects that help people affected by leprosy are only possible because of our incredible supporters. Thank you.

India: Snehalayas

Monday 19 December

In India there are five Snehalayas (care homes) which provide shelter for destitute individuals, affected in the worst possible way by leprosy. Because of the social stigma attached to the disease, people affected by leprosy are often not taken back by their families even after they are cured. Pray that the social stigma attached to leprosy will be removed and people's relatives will receive them.

Tuesday 20 December

There are 102 people affected by leprosy living in Snehalayas in India. Their average age is 60 years and above and as they grow older, the routine tasks and activities of daily living become more difficult and challenging. Many residents have crippling deformity of their hands and feet. Please pray for their health and wellbeing.

Wednesday 21 December

TLMTI Snehalayas do not find funds easily available to continue their daily work in serving

people affected by leprosy. Pray for new avenues to raise resources to run the Snehalayas.

Thursday 22 December

The residents in TLMI's Snehalayas are kept occupied doing work suited to their age and disability. They do jobs, like gardening, making dressing sets or packing medicines. Please pray that these will help keep the residents from getting depressed.

Friday 23 December

At this festive season, many of us will be spending time with family. The residents in TLMI's Snehalayas also need to feel needed by family members and their community. Please pray that their families will value and love them by visiting them at this Christmas time. Also pray that these residents will in turn find love, happiness and hope.

Saturday 24 / Sunday 25 December Christmas Day

Give thanks on this day for the wondrous birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We at the Leprosy Mission would like to wish you a happy and blessed Christmas.

Special stories from our appeals this year

Monday 26 December

In January we wrote to our supporters about an opportunity to have their donations matched by the NZ Government. This was to raise funds to support children in Papua New Guinea like Eurisder. Eurisder desperately wanted to go to school, but she was too tired to walk the long distance to school. She is currently receiving treatment for leprosy. Praise that she is now on the road to recovery, thanks to NZ supporters.

Tuesday 27 December

Our appeal in March supported people in Bangladesh like Mr Meah, a 55 year-old who lives with his wife and children in Bangladesh. After the pain began in his limbs due to leprosy, he could no longer operate his rickshaw business. He was diagnosed too late and one of his legs was amputated. Mr Meah starved himself so that his

family could eat. He is now a member of a self-help group and has started a small business to support his family. "I am very thankful," he says. Praise the project for helping people like Mr. Meah.

Wednesday 28 December

In May we wrote to our supporters about young Samir who had recently been diagnosed with leprosy. He had already seen the impact that leprosy has caused in his family and community. Donations from this appeal were needed to provide treatment to cure people who have leprosy before they suffer the same disability and disfigurement seen in Samir's family and community. Praise those who sent in donations and cards.

Thursday 29 December

Rawali was recently diagnosed with leprosy at the time of our Annual Appeal. She needs to complete her treatment to prevent her facing further disability caused by the disease. She has already lost her toes at the age of 15. She was struggling with her disability and had to leave college. Pray that Rawali will finish her treatment and go back to school.

Friday 30 December

12 year old Nasrin has advanced symptoms caused by leprosy. She has red, dry and cracked skin, and a clawed hand. Her spirit and confidence was low, as seen by her efforts to cover the signs of her leprosy. With the help of the Really Good Gifts campaign, she will be able to receive vital medication and surgery. This will prevent her from further disfigurement and enable her to go back to school. Pray that she receives help through Really Good Gifts and our wonderful supporters.

Saturday 31 December

Our current Cure One ambassador is 15 year old Anjali from India. Due to her hands clawing, she couldn't even hold a pen. We praise and give thanks to our wonderful supporters - now she is getting cured, cared and restored once and for all.