



**January 2017**

***'All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along.'***  
**Galatians 2v10**

**Sunday 1 January**

Thank God for this New Year and for the coming opportunities to demonstrate our love for Him and for all of His people. Ask God to bless The Leprosy Mission worldwide as we strive to eradicate the causes and consequences of leprosy and that He will be at the centre of all that TLM does. Pray that TLM will have many opportunities this year to share God's love to people in need.

**Bangladesh**

**Monday 2 January**

Pray for successful implementation of income generation activities of self-help groups in Chittagong. Self-help groups have been the key to the project's success, providing support and skills training to more than 2800 people living with leprosy and disability. Pray for more self-help groups to help people affected by leprosy. Pray for wisdom for all staff, that God will smooth the way as regards to restoring communities' relationships.

**Tuesday 3 January**

Pray for association and federation leaders to play a more active role in influencing Government health centres, so that timely leprosy care and treatment is delivered.

**Wednesday 4 January**

Pray for less turnover of doctors in primary health centres - the project builds capacity of doctors on leprosy treatment and after care. Pray that doors open for more permanent doctors to stay and care for leprosy affected patients. *'Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.'* (Matthew 10v8)

**Thursday 5 January**

Pray for more inclusion of leprosy and disability affected people in targeted communities. Pray for those that are suffering from stigma and give them strength to rise above such difficulties. Many of those cured of leprosy still face great physical and psychological challenges due to disability and the stigma associated with the disease. Let us pray that the power of God's love will transform lives by changing hatred into love.

**Friday 6 January**

Pray for sustainability of self-help groups after the project phases out. The self-help groups rely on loans being repaid by those who borrow them so the money can be reinvested and the scheme can grow. In 2016 we had great success. Pray that this continues and also for the success of self-help groups for many years to come, and that God will lead them in wisdom.

**Saturday 7 / Sunday 8 January**

Pray that more self-help groups are able to access government funds. Pray that the government will seek new ways to widen their support. *'The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.'* (Psalm 9v9)

**PNG and Bougainville appeal**

**Monday 9 January**

A Government match for PNG and Bougainville is being sent next week. The appeal is to raise vital funds for projects in PNG and Bougainville to ensure people in these remote communities have access to early diagnosis and the cure for leprosy before they suffer any long term disability. Pray that this is well received and that it is a successful appeal.

**Tuesday 10 January**

Boniface who is featured in our appeal is from Bougainville. He is 15 years old and is severely affected by leprosy with chronic ulcers on his legs. Pray Boniface and other children have access to the cure for leprosy and can finish their treatment. Pray for Boniface and his mother and for comfort for those who are suffering from the effects of leprosy.

**Wednesday 11 January**

A large portion of newly diagnosed leprosy cases are children. Boniface is one of them and he is too ill and tired to go to school. Pray that children affected by leprosy in PNG and Bougainville can get well and go back to school. *'The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.'* (Matthew 11:5)

**Thursday 12 January**

Boniface is a strong Christian. Pray that Boniface keeps strong faith and vision for the future. Pray that he doesn't give up on his dreams of becoming a gospel singer one day. *'O my soul, don't be discouraged. Don't be upset. Expect God to act! For I know that I shall again have plenty of reason to praise Him for all that He will do. He is my help! He is my God!'* (Psalm 42v11)

**Friday 13 January**

Pray that volunteers come forward in PNG to get trained in health care and utilise this to help people affected by leprosy. The project has reached over 30 communities, many of which are remote and difficult to access, so volunteers being able to diagnose leprosy is critical for the prevention of permanent disability. Give thanks especially for the new volunteers and their activities as well as their engagement. Pray that God will open the hearts of more people to help those affected by leprosy and the wider communities.

**Saturday 14 / Sunday 15 January**

Pray that the communities in PNG and Bougainville can benefit from the project and improve their health,

and lift themselves out of poverty in the future. There has been a significant improvement in the availability of multi-drug therapy for the treatment of leprosy in Bougainville. Also pray that new cases of leprosy continue to be identified and receive the treatment they need. Praise for the staff in PNG and Bougainville who are committed to helping children like Boniface.

### **Youth Advocates/Nepal**

#### **Monday 16 January**

Today the Youth Advocates leave from Auckland to Nepal for their trip. Pray for all travelling mercies and for the Youth Advocates to bond as a team as they set out on this adventure. Praise their enthusiasm and energy to enter this amazing journey with Gillian Whitley (Executive Director of LMNZ).

#### **Tuesday 17 January**

Pray for the Youth Advocates' understanding about leprosy and the work in Nepal. Pray that they will learn from the many stories that will be shared about people affected by leprosy at Anandaban Hospital. Also pray for a fruitful and a meaningful learning experience for our Youth Advocates.

#### **Wednesday 18 January**

Pray for a knowledgeable visit to Kathmandu City clinic to diagnose and treat people affected by leprosy and assess needs for low-cost housing, educational scholarships and income generation. Pray that the Youth Advocates will give uplifting support to those affected by leprosy and the staff carrying out the work.

#### **Thursday 19 January**

Pray that the Youth Advocates observe patiently, attentively and respectfully the reconstructive surgery for hands, feet and eyes. Pray that the Youth Advocates will gain invaluable learning experience from the expertise of Dr Indra Napit, (Medical Director) after hearing his testimony.

#### **Friday 20 January**

Pray for a stimulating community development visit to Kolkana leprosy village. That the Youth Advocates have an exhilarating time in playing for

the all-important volley ball match against LM Nepal. Also pray that upon the Youth Advocates' arrival back in New Zealand, they enthusiastically share their memorable experiences from the trip and help with spreading the word of how the Leprosy Mission seeks to see leprosy defeated and lives transformed.

#### **Saturday 21 / Sunday 22 January**

Praise the Church Service at a local Nepali church to share worship and the word with the Christian community. Pray for staff, governments, volunteers, youth advocates and supporters who together make it possible to carry out the vital work of the Leprosy Mission; to heal, help and empower leprosy-affected individuals and families.

### **World Leprosy Day**

#### **Monday 23 January**

Pray that many churches will choose to recognise people affected by leprosy in an event or service and that the materials TLM has prepared will engage and inspire congregations to greater support.

#### **Tuesday 24 January**

TLM Nigeria's 2017 World Leprosy Day celebrations will be marked with events such as lectures, advocacy visits, a press conference and visits to communities of persons affected by leprosy; all these will be done in collaboration with the Federal and State governments, ILEP partners and volunteers. Pray that these events will further strengthen the fight against leprosy and its consequences.

#### **Wednesday 25 January**

In South Sudan, people affected by leprosy are working with the assistance of their local disabled people's organisation to form their own association. Pray for good partnership and collaboration as they organise and celebrate both World Leprosy Day and the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

#### **Thursday 26 January**

Praise God for the growing number of churches who participate in World Leprosy Day. As we reach new congregations and new denominations, may we effectively communicate the unique ministry God has

called us to live out, creating the sense of excitement that they too can make a difference in the far corners of God's world.

#### **Friday 27 January**

Pray for World Leprosy Day celebrations in India. All TLM India's projects and centres across the country will be celebrating the day. Pray for the government, individuals and organisations that come together for celebrations and that they will result in increased awareness about leprosy, leading to early diagnosis as well as decreased stigma. Praise those

#### **Saturday 28 / Sunday 29 January**

Give thanks for the success of Cuppa for Cure, a World Leprosy Day initiative of TLM Australia. Cuppa for a Cure invites supporters to host a morning or afternoon tea, talk about leprosy and raise funds for people affected by leprosy, at some point during the year.

### **India Innovations**

#### **Monday 30 January**

Pray for the successful implementation of the Google grant project for developing protective sandals using 3D printing technology. The simple act of walking can cause damage to a leprosy affected person's feet as they cannot feel when they have injured themselves and are prone to ulcers which can lead to amputation. These protective sandals help protect damaged feet and can give a leprosy-affected person their mobility and freedom back. Praise for this innovative thinking – this new approach can be a game changer!

#### **Tuesday 31 January**

Pray for good returns from fish cultivation at Faizabad vocational training centre. Pray for prosperous fish cultivation and stable work environment to give those in poverty a brighter future.