



## Prayer & Praise

### Strengthening the Leprosy Mission Family through Prayer

January 2022

***'I will hide beneath the  
shadow of your wings until  
the danger passes by.'***  
***Psalms 57:1***

#### **Saturday 1 January/ Sunday 2 January**

Happy New Year, everyone! Please thank God for His blessing during 2021 and for keeping us during that year of change and growth. Pray that His will be done in 2022 and that we will seek to please Him in all that we do.

#### **Global Fellowship**

#### **Monday 3 January**

*'There are 130 pieces of legislation and 29 countries that discriminate against people on the grounds of leprosy.'* These words are taken from the advocacy campaign that was led by Leprosy Mission NZ, urging people to sign a petition for presentation at the United Nations, calling on nations to stop discrimination against people affected by leprosy.

Give thanks that 8000 people from 50 countries signed the petition.

#### **Tuesday 4 January**

Give thanks that the petition calling on the UN to...*'ensure that all Member States live up to the commitments they have made to international human rights conventions* was presented to members of the Human Rights Council of the UN in Geneva. Also give thanks that the members of the Council have assured their support.

#### **Wednesday 5 January**

Give thanks that the latest published information about the work of the Leprosy Mission shows that greater than 88% of multi-drug therapy treatments were completed in 2020. This happened despite the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic – a true cause for gratitude. Give thanks that, although under extreme pressure, staff in implementing countries have continued activities as well as they could.

#### **Thursday 6 January**

The Global Fellowship spiritual ministry working group hold two online prayer times each week. Please pray for peace, stability and safety across the Global Fellowship. Pray for wisdom for all those in leadership as they make decisions about what can and cannot be undertaken in challenging conditions around the world.

#### **Friday 7 January**

One of the challenges facing the Global Fellowship is deciding research priorities, including where Leprosy Mission fits into the overall research landscape. In Bangladesh, Nepal and Democratic Republic of Congo research projects are being carried out regarding the use of one antibiotic which reduces the risk of transmission to close contacts of a person affected by leprosy. Please pray for clear results from this research and pray that it will become clear to the Global Fellowship what the research priorities should be.

#### **Saturday 8 January/ Sunday 9 January**

Please pray for Brent Morgan, International Director, and the Board of the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship as they provide support and leadership for implementing countries and supporting countries around the world. Pray for wisdom and understanding

and pray that God will bless them in all that they undertake.

#### **Nepal**

#### **Monday 10 January**

Please pray for Shovakar Kandel, the Country Director of Leprosy Mission Nepal and his Country Office team, who supervise and monitor all the programmes. Pray for their safety and good health. Also pray for the members of self-help groups, whose lives have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Pray for the ability to register their co-operatives, which will improve their socio-economic development.

#### **Tuesday 11 January**

Two separate studies are being carried out within the RIGHT Project. One aims to transform the treatment and prevention of ulcers and is testing an innovative ulcer treatment. The other is evaluating the self-help groups for people affected by leprosy and other diseases. Please pray for the completion of enrolment of participants in the two separate studies.

#### **Wednesday 12 January**

Covid-19 has had a serious effect on projects in Nepal. Thank God that by His unconditional Grace the projects are finding new life and pray for more productive years to come. Pray for the successful training of health workers, medical officers and female community health workers for the HEAL Project, which provides cutting-edge treatment and care to improve the health and dignity of people affected by leprosy in eleven districts in southern Nepal.

#### **Thursday 13 January**

Anandaban Hospital's team holds monthly outreach clinics in Butwal, West Nepal and Biratnagar, East Nepal. At these clinics new leprosy cases and patients with leprosy reaction are managed. Give thanks for the success of the clinics, as they have helped in the early diagnosis of patients and thus prevented disabilities from occurring. Please pray for the safety of staff and patients.

#### **Friday 14 January**

Building capacity and providing technical support at other Nepali health institutions is vital for early case detection and management. Give thanks that Leprosy

Mission Nepal's Training and Technical Support Centre at Anandaban Hospital provides extensive training about leprosy and other Neglected Tropical Diseases.

### **Saturday 15 January/ Sunday 16 January**

Give thanks that Anandaban Hospital's work is providing training for Nepal's government health staff, national and international medical students, doctors and community volunteers. This is all aiming towards the goal of Zero Leprosy, Zero Disability and Zero Discrimination.

## **Bougainville**

### **Monday 17 January**

Please pray for Ruby Mirinka, her staff and team of volunteers in Bougainville, which has an upsurge in cases of Covid-19. Pray for their safety from the virus and their physical safety as they interact with communities.

### **Tuesday 18 January**

Pray for God's guidance and provision for the Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme so they can reach deeper into communities affected by leprosy. Please pray that this exemplary preventative health model continues to improve health, hygiene and governance practices in the community owned programme.

### **Wednesday 19 January**

Relationships with the Bougainville government's Department of Health are crucial for co-operation so that the work of Leprosy Mission can continue effectively. Pray that the Department of Health will take a leading role in the delivery of support for people affected by leprosy.

### **Thursday 20 January**

Please pray for a continued focus on detecting, diagnosing and treating leprosy. Pray for early diagnosis of leprosy in remote communities and for a continuous supply of Multi-Drug Therapy for all those who need treatment.

### **Friday 21 January**

Because the Bougainville Healthy Communities Project covers 95% of Bougainville's population the team travels through difficult territory to make sure that no-one misses out on the cure for leprosy. Please pray for safe travel for all staff and community volunteers over land, sea and rivers.

### **Saturday 22 January/ Sunday 23 January**

Village treasuries are a key element of the BHCP. Funds are used by communities to respond to the needs of each village. This includes school fees, patient referral costs and community development. Please pray for the growth and sustainability of village treasuries so more lives can be transformed through this important work.

## **World Leprosy Day**

### **Monday 24 January**

*'...I will hide beneath the shadow of your wings until the danger passes by.'* Psalm 57:1

Please pray that as the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship work together for the World Leprosy Day campaign the results of everyone's efforts will be multiplied so that more people affected by leprosy can be cured, cared for and restored.

### **Tuesday 25 January**

Sameer is a young boy in India who wants to play football, but leprosy has been stealing his dreams and his future. It began with numbness on small patches of skin. His nerves were being destroyed by the leprosy bacteria. Please pray that many children with leprosy can be diagnosed at the early stage so the disease does not progress into causing disability.

### **Wednesday 26 January**

Tragically for Sameer, leprosy was not diagnosed at an early stage. His hands and his feet have been badly affected by leprosy. Sameer is no longer at school because he cannot hold a pen and can hardly even move his hands. Leprosy has also weakened Sameer's legs so he can no longer run without tripping. Football is out of the question. Please pray that many people like Sameer can access the cure for leprosy and get the care they need to restore movement in their hands and feet as much as possible.

### **Thursday 27 January**

Give thanks for Sameer and other children. Pray that they will be able to get the cure and care they need so that life can have hope and joy again. Give thanks for the many supporters around the world who respond to the needs of people like Sameer and pray that God will bless them.

### **Friday 28 January**

Give thanks that, last year in New Zealand, as part of World Leprosy Day, 77 churches and more than 5000 people prayed for people affected by leprosy. Please pray for the multiplication of that number this year and that God will pour out His blessing in and through the churches.

### **Saturday 29 January/ Sunday 30 January**

Sunday is World Leprosy Day, the culmination of this global campaign to raise awareness of leprosy and what can be done to eradicate it. Please pray for an outpouring of love towards those affected by leprosy and that more people will become aware that leprosy still exists but is totally curable.



## **Bangladesh**

### **Monday 31 January**

Please pray for members of self-help groups to be able to continue and undertake new income-generation activities in 2022. Pray that the interference and obstacles of the last two years will dissipate so that people affected by leprosy can take strides forward in improving their lives and that of their families.