

# **March 2017**

'Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.' Mark 11v24

#### Wednesday 1 March

Praise God for Programme Manager, Jasleen Kler for her hard work in this past year. Praise God for her skills and her heart in serving leprosy-affected communities. Jasleen has played a vital role in managing our relationship with the NZ Government and her knowledge and experience has enhanced our projects.

# **Thursday 2 March**

Pray today for the LMNZ Supporter Services team Kiri de Beer, Carolyn Currie and Ngaira Lynch. Praise God for their diligence, dedication and positive attitude in helping and maintaining good relationships with our supporters. Pray for strength and resilience as they go about their daily work.

#### Friday 3 March

Pray for successful fundraising outcomes for the 2017 Youth Advocates as they present in churches and community groups about their life-changing experience in Nepal. Pray that their voice will be heard and can help raise funds and awareness for the Leprosy Mission work in Nepal.

# Saturday 4 March / Sunday 5 March

Pray God will guide and bless Leprosy Mission NZ's fundraising initiatives. Pray that more visitors will be attracted to our website and Facebook page and be

encouraged to give support through prayer, donations or advocating for people affected by leprosy.

## Bangladesh appeal

# Monday 6 March

This week we are writing to our supporters to raise funds for our project in Bangladesh. We are writing about Rabiul who is only 8 years old. Pray the appeal is well received and people open their hearts to Rabiul and donate to our work in Bangladesh so that we are able to cure, care for and restore more leprosy-affected individuals and communities.

#### **Tuesday 7 March**

Rabiul is having his life destroyed by leprosy. Rabiul's hands are badly clawed, he cannot eat properly, hold a pen and play like others normally do. He is too young for surgery so he must do physiotherapy every day until he is old enough to have surgery. Pray that he continues to visit the clinic and do his physiotherapy, and that he can have surgery in the future.

#### Wednesday 8 March

Rabiul's dream is to become a doctor one day and help other people affected by leprosy. Pray that Rabiul can continue with school and the door will open for him to fulfil his dreams in spite of his very poor background. Pray for God's provision and wisdom as he goes through this journey.

# **Thursday 9 March**

Our appeal is also for funds to set up Self-Help Groups in communities in Bangladesh. If Rabiul's mother can join a Self-Help Group, she will be able to learn new skills, set up her own business and earn more money to make a better life for herself and Rabiul. Pray for more Self-Help groups and wisdom for those learning new skills.

## Friday 10 March

Rabiul is much traumatised by leprosy, his disability and his father leaving. He was subdued and shocked by what has been happening to him. Pray that he can be emotionally healed and can go on to lead a normal childhood. Also, pray that the support given by the project is sufficient to help more leprosy-affected people like Rabiul.

#### Saturday 11 March / Sunday 12 March

Praise God for the staff who work in Bangladesh. Their tireless dedication means we can reach out to more children like Rabiul. Please pray for their safety and well-being while they are serving those affected by leprosy. Pray that they will be blessed as they give their time and expertise for leprosy affected communities.

#### Nepal

#### Monday 13 March

TLM Nepal seeks to support the work of the Nepal Government by training staff members and by providing technical support when required. Pray for the regular training programmes for Government-employed Medical Officers and other senior staff at the Anandaban Training Centre. May these trainings be conducted successfully so the staff can use their skills to help those most in need.

#### **Tuesday 14 March**

Leprosy can be hidden, which means some patients would have the disease for many years before diagnosis. This significantly increases the risk of nerve damage and disability. Please pray for the patients and researchers involved in the trial and development of new innovative diagnostics. Pray that people affected by leprosy can be diagnosed in the early stage, so they can be rescued from worse disease effects and limit further transmission.

# Wednesday 15 March

TLM Nepal works with government staff at field level, reviewing and validating diagnoses made locally at the government centres. Patients diagnosed through TLM Nepal clinics or other field activities are then referred to their nearest Health Post or hospital for multi-drug therapy treatment. Praise the expertise of Leprosy Mission staff in accurate diagnosis and early treatment of leprosy. Praise also for their diligence and dedication in serving people affected by leprosy.

#### **Thursday 16 March**

Community Based Rehabilitation programmes seek to address the needs of people affected by leprosy and people with other forms of disability within their communities. TLM Nepal sets up Self-Help Groups through projects in Chitwan, Makawanpur and Parsa districts. These give the context for training, mutual learning and motivational activities – the major elements to the process of empowerment.

### Friday 17 March

In clinical trials, Anandaban research is targeting to improve treatments for leprosy reactions, as well as reconstructive surgical and physiotherapy techniques to shorten the recovery time of leprosy patients. Please pray for good communication, partnerships and progress so that we can provide evidence-based tools that will benefit global patient populations.

#### Saturday 18 March / Sunday 19 March

TLM Nepal works with a number of partner organisations who share their concern for people affected by leprosy. As opportunities arise, experiences, lessons learnt and resources are shared. Please pray for wisdom and strength for TLM Nepal staff as they maintain good relationships with partners, in order to maximise the impact of support for people affected by leprosy.

# **Ethiopia**

# Monday 20 March

TLM Ethiopia has a small team and they work closely with partners, Life in Abundance (a Christian development organisation) and ENAPAL (Ethiopian National Association of Persons Affected by Leprosy). Pray that TLM Global Fellowship make well founded decisions and are able to give support to field partners endeavouring to build self-reliant communities through economic development projects.

# **Tuesday 21 March**

Remember today Tadesse Tesfaye, Managing Director of ENAPAL, as he continues to raise community awareness and organisational strengthening. ENAPAL has a board of 14 leprosy-

affected people and works through over 63 local associations and regional branches. Pray that all will have the same understanding of ENAPAL's vision, goals and objectives, and work effectively in helping leprosy affected communities.

#### Wednesday 22 March

An estimated 30,000 people are living with permanent leprosy-related disabilities. Pray for effectively run Self-Care groups, these groups are extremely important to give encouragement, access to vital health services and skills training for people to improve their living standards, and hope for the future.

## **Thursday 23 March**

TLM Ethiopia's national office is within the grounds of ALERT (The All-Africa Leprosy, Tuberculosis, Rehabilitation and Research Training Centre) compound. ALERT is the main referral hospital for leprosy, also an international training centre. Pray that ALERT's training courses will be well attended by medical professionals, giving them the knowledge to recognise leprosy when they see it in people and the training to give quality care.

# Friday 24 March

Pray for leprosy-affected children in Ethiopia who are receiving educational scholarships to support their schooling through ENAPAL. The scholarship provides children the opportunity to attend school with a school bag, books and a uniform. Education is their best means of escaping poverty which provides them with greater prospects for fullness of life in the future.

### Saturday 25 March / Sunday 26 March

Pray for continued success with the running of the Grain Mills. These enterprises provide income and training for men and women affected by leprosy. In addition, profits from these mills enable ENAPAL to care for the most vulnerable leprosy-affected people within their community, by providing schooling for children, as well as blankets and necessities for the elderly. It also breaks down barriers between people affected by leprosy and the wider community.

#### Africa

#### Monday 27 March

Pray for God's comfort and provision for all who are affected by the devastating effects of the Ebola virus in West Africa and pray that God will provide a way to quickly bring it to an end.

# **Tuesday 28 March**

Sudan/South Sudan – Pray for TLM Country Leader Dr Yousif Deng, for wisdom and strength to cope with the changing situations in Sudan and South Sudan. Pray for healing and reconciliation in relationships among the various communities that have been affected by civil unrest.

#### Wednesday 29 March

Chad is a semi-desert country which makes providing enough food for its 11.8 million citizens a struggle. Pray that food security programmes will meet the needs of the poor and disadvantaged during times of drought. Pray for excellent harvest during the rainy-season from June to October. Please pray also for all TLM chad staff as they partner with other non-government organisations and the government in delivering leprosy services.

# **Thursday 30 March**

**DR Congo** – Pray for a successful year for all project staff and the thousands of beneficiaries within the five provinces in which TLM DR Congo works. Most TLM projects can only be reached by air, but air travel in DR Congo is notoriously unsafe. Pray for safety and security, that God will protect TLM Congo staff from accidents and diseases when travelling to supervise projects.

# Friday 31 March

Niger – TLM Niger has expanded its leprosy services and community empowerment into six regions of Niger. Pray for successful implementation of the project. Remember also staff at CSL Danja Community Hospital, especially Dr Marc Bztumike, and Dr Mark Griffiths. Pray for God's strength and wisdom as they serve leprosy-affected communities.