



March 2018

‘Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”’

Luke 18v27

PNG and Bougainville

Thursday 1 March

Gillian Whitley, Executive Director, recently met Boniface and his family again in PNG. Boniface is a young boy who was featured in our 2017 World Leprosy Day appeal. He completed the full course of multi-drug therapy and he is recovering well. He is feeling more confident and hopeful for his future. Boniface still enjoys singing gospel songs of praise. Praise for His glory and faithfulness in our lives and the lives of leprosy-affected children like Boniface.

Friday 2 March

In PNG and Bougainville, many areas in which the Leprosy Mission works are poverty stricken with high crime rates. Pray for protection over the staff in PNG and Bougainville as they visit project communities. Gillian visited 11-year-old Lily. Praise the Lord! Lily is now cured from leprosy. She also receives bandages and care for her ulcer and she is feeling more positive about her future.

Saturday 3 March / Sunday 4 March

Praise for the many village health workers in PNG and Bougainville, they received training from the

Leprosy Mission in diagnosing leprosy cases in their communities, and in helping people affected by leprosy access the cure. Pray for openness in hearts and minds of the people in PNG and Bougainville, so more people will come forward to be village health volunteers in their community.

Bangladesh appeal

Monday 5 March

This week we are writing to our supporters to raise funds for our project in Bangladesh. We are writing about Khaleda who is a young mum. Pray the appeal is well received and people open their hearts to Kajeda. Pray for good response to this campaign, so we are able to cure, care for and restore more leprosy-affected people in Bangladesh.

Tuesday 6 March

Khaleda is 21 years old and she is mother to little Sayem who is only 4-year-old. Sadly, Khaleda's leprosy was diagnosed too late. Nerve damage to her young body means she is unable to feel when she burns herself while cooking, or damages her ulcerated feet as she cleans her modest home. Pray Khaleda receives all the care and medication she needs to recover and her wounds will not be infected.

Wednesday 7 March

Khaleda tries to do housework when her husband is not at home, but that is when she injures herself. Khaleda now only has three complete fingers left. She has also lost toes, including a big toe on one foot. Pray that through the care and support from the Leprosy Mission, Khaleda receives special sandals to protect her feet, and training to care for her hands so she doesn't lose any more fingers.

Thursday 8 March

Little Sayem is turning five years old soon and will be attending school. Khaleda's hope is to be able to provide a better future for her son and family. Pray that through self-help group, Khaleda could receive vocational training and learn to sew properly. She could make dresses and sell them for money. By earning extra money, Khaleda and her husband can afford school items for little Sayem.

Friday 9 March

Pray for God's provision and comfort upon all mothers affected by leprosy in Bangladesh. Pray especially for those like Khaleda who are suffering with disabilities from the effects of leprosy. Pray that God will protect them from further injury, and give them courage to overcome the challenges they face each day.

Saturday 10 March / Sunday 11 March

This is the final year of matched funding from the NZ government to LMNZ's project in Bangladesh. Pray that supporters will seize this opportunity to multiply their gift 3 times for the Mission work in Bangladesh. Praise God for the fruits of the project that have brought lasting improvement to the quality of life for people affected by leprosy in Bangladesh. Pray God will open a new door for the continuation of this vital work.

Supporter Tour

Monday 12 March

This year we are delighted to have a group of New Zealand supporters joining Gillian Whitley, Executive Director, on our Supporter Tour to India and Nepal. Pray for all travelling mercies, also for a fruitful and meaningful experience for our supporters as they can see firsthand how the Leprosy Mission works.

Tuesday 13 March

During this 2 week trip, supporters travel to some of the most populous and poorest regions in India and Nepal to witness the Mission work. They will meet people affected by leprosy and Leprosy Mission staff in hospitals and community-based projects. Pray their visit will give uplifting support to people affected by leprosy and the staff carrying out the Mission work in India and Nepal.

Wednesday 14 March

Muzaffarpur Hospital in India provides both in and out-patient services. The major ongoing activities carried out in the hospital include: diagnosis of new leprosy cases and treatment; reconstructive surgery and prevention of disability, and ulcer management. Thank God for the quality leprosy care being provided through Muzaffarpur Hospital to heal and restore fullness of life to leprosy patients.

Thursday 15 March

In India, our supporters also have the opportunity to visit the Leprosy Mission Faizabad Vocational Training Centre. It offers a range of courses including computing, electronics, car mechanics and sewing for students from leprosy-affected families. Graduated students are also eligible for a loan scheme to help them set up their own businesses. Pray for God's wisdom and provision for these students.

Friday 16 March

Many on the supporter tour are also heading to Nepal to witness the Leprosy Mission work there. Anandaban Hospital (Anandaban means 'forest of joy') takes a holistic approach in curing and caring for people affected by leprosy. Patients often come from far distances and have to stay away from family for a long period of time. Pray God's love is shown through our supporters to the patients.

Saturday 17 March / Sunday 18 March

Pray that supporters will be inspired from the many stories that are shared from people affected by leprosy and hospital staff. Pray that upon their arrival back in New Zealand, they enthusiastically share their life-changing experiences from the trip to churches and community groups.

Cure, Care for, Restore

Monday 19 March

Riding the world of leprosy is at the heart of our mission. The global fellowship is working hard with international organisations for zero transmission of leprosy by 2035. Pray for God's provision and guidance as the Leprosy Mission continue to seek His will in defeating leprosy and transforming lives.

Tuesday 20 March

Praise God for our supporters in New Zealand by remembering the Mission work in their bequests. Recently, a bequest allowed LMNZ to purchase a much needed all terrain 4WD for the team in PNG. They travel day in and day out through difficult terrain to make sure no one is missing out on the cure for

leprosy. With this new 4WD, they can reach people affected by leprosy in some of the most remote places on earth.

Wednesday 21 March

Rabiul is a little boy from Bangladesh who we wrote to supporters about last year. When Gillian, Executive Director, first met him, Rabiul's hands were very badly clawed. He was unable to feed himself because he simply couldn't hold a spoon due to the nerve damage on his little hands. Thankfully, he has had corrective hand surgery, he does his physiotherapy exercises every day and is recovering well.

Thursday 22 March

Hasan from Bangladesh is our cure one ambassador for this year. His growth has been stunted by malnutrition and poverty. Leprosy is just one thing too much for 9-year-old Hasan. Praise for our Cure One supporters, Hasan has completed his course of leprosy treatment and is cured from leprosy. Pray Hasan can have the opportunity to go to school and to escape poverty.

Friday 23 March

Eurisder is a young girl from PNG. Her leprosy was first suspected by a health volunteer in her village. The patches and swellings on Eurisder's face reduced when she received treatment, and they have now disappeared completely. Praise for the diligence and dedication of village health volunteers, early diagnose has prevented Eurisder from any permanent disability.

Saturday 24 March / Sunday 25 March

Sanku is a carpenter in India. His customers avoided him when they noticed he had leprosy, and very soon Sanku's income began to decline. With God's grace and provision, Sanku received and completed his full course of leprosy medication. A self-help group was set up in the community, meaning Sanku's wife, Apurna, could learn tailoring and set up her own small business.

Really Good Gifts for Easter

Monday 26 March

Praise God for the successful acquisition campaigns in 2017 in acquiring new supporters across New Zealand. Give thank for their willing heart in supporting people

affected by leprosy. Pray for successful campaigns that LMNZ can continue to inspire and be accountable to our faithful supporters.

Tuesday 27 March

This week LMNZ is undertaking an Easter digital campaign to encourage supporters to choose a Really Good Gift of protective sandals. These sandals are a lifeline for leprosy-affected feet. They can help people affected by leprosy regain their mobility, reclaim their income, freedom and dignity. Pray for a fruitful outcome for this initiative, so more leprosy-affected people can be benefited.

Wednesday 28 March

Leprosy attacks and damages nerve endings of people affected by leprosy. Unable to feel pain or irritation, their feet become injured and disabled. A gift of micro-fiber sandals with soft padding will protect their feet for years. This is vital, especially for children, so they can step into adulthood with healthy feet. Pray that the hearts of New Zealanders will be stirred into action to support people affected by leprosy.

Thursday 29 March

In India, 10-year-old Naseem has advanced leprosy. The disease has given him a dropfoot and severe ulcer on his right foot. Praise the Lord! He is now cured from leprosy. He has also been fitted with protective sandals and is now back on his feet. Pray Naseem can receive reconstructive surgery in the future to correct his dropfoot so he can begin to walk normally again.

Friday 30 March

Good Friday – Let us remember today that each of us are precious to the Lord. He loves us so much that He died on the cross for us. Pray those who are affected by leprosy, disability, war or poverty will come to know His amazing grace and unconditional love.

Saturday 31 March

"For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him." Romans 6:9 Give thanks to the Lord that we have the privilege of serving The Living God!