



## **Prayer & Praise**

### **Strengthening the Leprosy Mission Family through Prayer**

**November 2020**

***'Oh Lord my God, I cried unto  
you and you have healed me.'***  
**Psalm 30:2**

#### **Bangladesh**

##### **Monday 2 November**

Give thanks to God that Leprosy Mission hospitals in Bangladesh are centres of excellence that provide an exceptional level of care to leprosy patients. The care they provide includes reconstructive surgery, physiotherapy, treatment of ulcers, and counselling, as well as multi-drug therapy.

##### **Tuesday 3 November**

Receiving a leprosy diagnosis can be a very difficult experience, particularly given the stigma that surrounds the disease. Many people face rejection by their families and communities and they begin to fear for their futures. Give thanks for the counselling that helps them to see that they have nothing to fear.

Please pray for peace for newly-diagnosed patients and their families.

##### **Wednesday 4 November**

Leprosy Mission hospitals ensure that people are fully aware of how to look after their bodies once they are discharged from hospital. This means they can care for any wounds or ulcers, and can keep themselves healthy. Please pray that people are receptive to the training and that they can see that their health is improving through following what they have been taught.

##### **Thursday 5 November**

Bangladesh is one of the poorest countries in the world and leprosy is a major health problem. TLM New Zealand has a strong partnership in the Chittagong region, which has a high rate of leprosy. Please pray that through the work of TLM leprosy will lose its stigma so that those who have been diagnosed with the condition are able to still live and work in their communities.

##### **Friday 6 November**

Self-help groups give support and training to many people affected by leprosy and disability, with the aim of improving their quality of life. Give thanks for the help these projects are giving and for the improvement to the lives of many people.

##### **Saturday 7 November / Sunday 8 November**

Thank God that the training people have had through project activities means that they have a sense of belonging and can share knowledge and skills with other members. Give thanks that the growing sense of self-worth and dignity that members of the self-help groups are gaining is giving people confidence to confront and overcome previous levels of stigma in their community.

#### **Papua New Guinea**

##### **Monday 9 November**

Give thanks for the appointment of a new Accounts Manager to Leprosy Mission PNG. Please pray for this person to settle and become part of the team easily and to be able to take up the role efficiently and peacefully.

Pray that the new accounting software will be a great help in their work.

##### **Tuesday 10 November**

Pray for the staff of Leprosy Mission PNG who are raising awareness of Covid-19 among local communities in Leprosy Mission programmes. Pray that the staff will be safe and that the understanding and implementation of safety measures in the communities will be successful.

##### **Wednesday 11 November**

Give thanks that an increasingly strengthening savings culture is emerging among people affected by leprosy participating in the Sustainable Livelihoods Development Programme, which shows in the growing number of people opening bank accounts.

##### **Thursday 12 November**

Pray for the slowing of the transmission of Covid-19 in Papua New Guinea, as cases have been increasing in two provinces. Pray for wisdom for the government and for all those in leadership positions in communities with people affected by leprosy, who are particularly vulnerable because of lowered immunity.

##### **Friday 13 November**

Leprosy Mission PNG has a newly-appointed Programmes Co-ordinator. Please pray for this person to take up their position with enthusiasm and willingness to face the challenges of their position. Pray for good communication with all the stakeholders so that people affected by leprosy can get the help the programme is designed to provide.

##### **Saturday 14 November / Sunday 15 November**

Pray for the community volunteers who provide health and livelihoods training in the local communities. Pray that these people will feel safe in their positions and not have to worry about Covid-19 as they go about their work. Please pray a blessing over their families as well.

#### **Global Fellowship**

##### **Monday 16 November**

Thank God for the work of TLM Global Fellowship Advocacy Network as they work to identify key priorities for advocacy. Also pray for opportunities to

advocate collectively with other organisations to send a stronger message internationally so that discrimination against people affected by leprosy can be eliminated.

#### **Tuesday 17 November**

Please pray for the staff and volunteer health workers of the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship as they confront the realities of working towards the elimination of leprosy while working around Covid-19. Pray for wisdom and safety for those in implementing countries who are on the front line for people affected by leprosy.

#### **Wednesday 18 November**

Give thanks that The Leprosy Mission is a well-connected organisation. Communication between all of our offices is a real asset as everyone works together to tackle the consequences of Covid-19 and carry out their programmes to provide the cure, care and restoration for people affected by leprosy. Give thanks for all staff, volunteers and supporters.

#### **Thursday 19 November**

There are senior staff in our implementing countries who have tested positive for Covid-19. Frontline staff are most at risk because of possible exposure to the virus. Please pray for healing and God's protection for all Global Fellowship staff and all we serve. Pray that those who have Covid-19 will recover well and have no long-term effects of the virus.

#### **Friday 20 November**

Leprosy can be difficult to diagnose among the many skin conditions found, and delayed diagnosis is a major problem with leprosy. Most diagnosis is carried out by staff in the field, who can only observe the outer symptoms, as laboratories are not available. Give thanks that researchers are finding that lasers and LED lights can give spectral images of more layers of the skin, which can help with diagnosis.

#### **Saturday 21 November / Sunday 22 November**

Researchers are working towards using multi-spectral imaging from smartphones, which could speed up the diagnosis of symptoms of leprosy that are on lower layers of the skin, not just the surface.

Please give thanks for the research being carried out as part of the Global Fellowship, and pray that more people affected by leprosy will benefit from it.

### **Indonesia**

#### **Monday 23 November**

Pray for the direct involvement of people affected by leprosy in the promotion of programmes for the prevention and treatment of leprosy. The aim is to encourage others to be aware of their health and of where to go for help, with the aim of early detection.

#### **Tuesday 24 November**

Pray for the ongoing training in leprosy diagnosis and prevention, and for the growth of technical knowledge for health workers. This will ensure their readiness to provide vital services for those affected by leprosy. Please pray that more people will be able to be diagnosed early in the progression of the condition so they can go on to lead productive lives.

#### **Wednesday 25 November**

Give thanks and praise for the collaboration of TLM New Zealand, Netherlands and Australia, working with No Leprosy Remains-Indonesia and the Indonesian Department of Health. They are undertaking intensive case finding and the distribution of the preventative antibiotic, Rifampicin, towards the goal of Zero Transmission.

#### **Thursday 26 November**

Pray for the awareness-raising activities at village level and for developing relationships with a diverse range of community leaders. These will help to encourage community support for the health interventions so that people affected by leprosy will feel confident to come for early diagnosis and treatment.

#### **Friday 27 November**

Pray that the project's combined approach will mean new cases are found and treated, and that people keep up with their leprosy treatment. Pray also that close contacts can be traced so any possible transmission can be prevented and the stigma of leprosy reduced.

#### **Saturday 28 November/Sunday 29 November**

Indonesia has the third highest number of cases of leprosy in the world and leprosy is one of the major causes of preventable disability. Please pray that the work being undertaken has a significant, noticeable impact on the rate of leprosy and brings improvement to the lives and living conditions of people affected by leprosy.

### **Protective Sandals**

#### **Monday 30 November**

Leprosy Mission hospitals in India and Bangladesh provide protective footwear for people who have lost sensation in their feet. The sandals will make it less likely that they pick up injuries without realising it. Give thanks for the provision of these wonderful aids that really help people overcome disability.