



October 2017

'Because you are my help, I sing in the shadow of your wings.' Psalm 63v7

Nepal

Sunday 1 October / Monday 2 October

In the past few months, Nepal has been severely affected by flash floods and landslides triggered by heavy rainfall. More than 160 people are confirmed dead, and around 90,000 homes were under water. The floods and landslides have affected Leprosy Mission's work in Nepal as we are called in to help leprosy-affected communities. Please pray for God's providence and protection upon the people of Nepal.

Tuesday 3 October

Nepal's flooded areas are the poorest parts of the country, where most families live in bare mud houses and rely on subsistence farming. Families have seen their homes washed away and their farms are now underwater. People affected by leprosy, disability and poverty are especially vulnerable following disasters. Pray for the safety for these vulnerable people, and that the rescue teams can reach and help those most in need.

Wednesday 4 October

In response to this disaster, New Zealanders have supported the Leprosy Mission in Nepal to carry out relief programmes and deliver relief packages to people affected by floods and landslides. These include food, safe shelter, medicine and medical care. Give thanks for everyone who has given to support people affected by floods and landslides in Nepal and for the continued awareness and

response of New Zealanders to Nepal's time of need.

Thursday 5 October

Remember the Leprosy Mission team in Nepal today. Praise God for their diligence and heart in serving those in desperate need, especially people affected by leprosy and disability, during this difficult time. Please pray for their health and safety, and God's strength as they travel around the flooded areas helping people affected by floods and landslides. Pray also for a continued oneness between all relief working groups.

Friday 6 October

Today many people are still missing, families have held last rites without their loved ones' bodies being found. The Leprosy Mission Nepal has held counselling sessions in flood-affected districts. Pray for the women and families who participate in these sessions as they talk to and support each other emotionally during this time of trauma. For the men also who have gone to flooded areas to rescue whatever little they can salvage. Pray especially for those who have lost loved ones, that God will give them comfort and peace.

Saturday 7 October / Sunday 8 October

A three-day emergency health camp was organised for flood-affected districts in Nepal. The Health Camp provided services to 1,066 flood affected people suffering from skin, orthopaedic and general health related issues. During treatment, cases like fever, water borne diseases, skin diseases, ear problems and orthopaedic cases were diagnosed and treated. Pray that patients will be healed both physically and emotionally.

New Zealand

Monday 9 October

Gathering New Zealanders support for Leprosy Mission's work is fundamental to achieving the vision of a world without leprosy. Please commit the LMNZ's strategic fundraising plan for 2018 to God. Pray for wisdom to harness available opportunities; and equip the team with innovative ideas for the development of new channels of income and partnership.

Tuesday 10 October

We want to say a heartfelt welcome to Kamal

Prasad, who joined the Leprosy Mission NZ family last month as a fixed term Database Specialist. Kamal brings a wealth of skills and experience from his twelve years of working in India. Kamal is new to New Zealand, and is away from his family. Pray Kamal will settle well into his new role and to living in New Zealand.

Wednesday 11 October

Final weeks of training for staff, Board members, volunteers, supporters and youth advocates who are participating in the Auckland Marathon on 29th October. Pray for wellness and persistence as participants build their fitness and endurance towards their goal. Pray for encouragement in their fundraising efforts as they seek to help cure, care for and restore people affected by leprosy.

Thursday 12 October

LMNZ is blessed when supporters dedicate a bequest to realise the vision of a world without leprosy. A prayer of thanks and praise to those individuals who leave a lasting gift in their Will for the work of the Leprosy Mission. It is a powerful way to serve leprosy-affected families for generations to come, and help LMNZ make its vision of a world without leprosy, stigma and discrimination a reality.

Friday 13 October

LMNZ could not achieve its goals without the expertise of its volunteer Board and Committee members. The full Board meet twice a year, and today they are meeting to prioritise project needs within the budget for 2018. Praise God for their expertise, devotion and passion in seeing leprosy defeated, and lives transformed. Pray for wisdom in all decision making and oneness of heart.

Saturday 14 October / Sunday 15 October

Board members are meeting today to finalise the new Leprosy Mission NZ Strategic Plan 2019-2023. Pray for God's wisdom and a strong consensus as LMNZ senior staff members and Board members seek God's will for the organisation for the next five years.

Bougainville

Monday 16 October

This week Gillian Whitley, Executive Director, and

Tony Wrightson, Programme Consultant, travel to Bougainville to visit project work. Bougainville is one of the most remote places on earth. Pray God protects Gillian and Tony from accidents and disease when travelling and for their safety and health. Pray also for effective discussion with the Autonomous Bougainville Government for the continuation of LMNZ's work.

Tuesday 17 October

LMNZ has been supporting the development of a successful community health programme in Bougainville since 1999. Our project is helping to establish health care in local communities so that families can be supported in their own health and wellbeing. Pray that this project will make a lasting impact on leprosy-affected individuals and communities in Bougainville.

Wednesday 18 October

Praise God for the positive impact our community health project has brought to the community. Since the project began, a total of 2,145 leaders have been trained on village leadership and governance. 90% of communities have a safe water supply, an increased proportion of families have a toilet and other sanitation provisions, and 95% of babies are now being born under supervised situations.

Thursday 19 October

LMNZ's current project in Bougainville will come to an end in 2018. Pray for God's provision and guidance as LMNZ and the Autonomous Bougainville Government discuss future possibilities for partnership. Pray we continue to build on the foundation of previous projects in reducing diseases like leprosy, improve health practices, and increase community access to basic health services.

Friday 20 October

Give thanks for the dedication of the trained village leaders and village health volunteers in Bougainville. Pray that God blesses them in continuing to serve His people with love. Pray too for God's wisdom, power and leading for Ruby Mirinka, Programmes Director, and Neil Toura, Operations Director, based in Bougainville, as

they manage the team in transforming the lives of people affected by leprosy.

Saturday 21 October / Sunday 22 October

The Leprosy Mission team in Bougainville travels through difficult terrain to remote villages making sure no one is missing out on the cure for leprosy. They are in desperate need of a new 4WD. Pray for God's provision so that the Mission's work can reach these communities, as many have no access to clinics or hospitals. Pray also for safety as the team travels day in and day out to reach those most in need.

Papua New Guinea

Monday 23 October

Gillian Whitley, Executive Director, and Tony Wrightson, Programme Consultant, travel on to Papua New Guinea this week. Pray for God's protection over Gillian and Tony as they travel long hours over rough terrain to visit project communities in the course of their work. Pray also for good discussion and positive outcomes as they meet with the Leprosy Mission team in Papua New Guinea discussing leprosy control, improvement in health and employment opportunities for people affected by leprosy, disability and poverty.

Tuesday 24 October

The Sustainable Livelihoods Development Project in Papua New Guinea is now six months into implementation. This project is built on the success of TLM's previous projects in PNG, and aims to reduce the leprosy burden by focusing on two main areas – health and livelihoods. Pray for the team of eight staff as they work together to achieve success in the areas of health and livelihoods for the people of PNG.

Wednesday 25 October

Praise God for the approval from the NZ Government to partner and fund our project in Papua New Guinea for the next five years. TLM PNG is seeking new ways to develop new partnerships with the Government and with other like-minded organisations in transforming the lives of people affected by leprosy. Please pray for new sustainable strategies and methods.

Thursday 26 October

Praise the Lord! TLM, the National Leprosy Elimination Programme and the World Health Organisation now have a combined project for two years, to support the contact tracing of new leprosy cases. This means visiting each new patient and screening their family members for leprosy skin patches and other signs of the disease.

Friday 27 October

This weekend, TLM Papua New Guinea is holding their Annual Country Learning workshop. Gillian Whitley, Tony Wrightson and staff members from all over PNG will be attending. Please pray for wisdom and understanding, that all those participating will have open hearts as they engage in the discussion. Pray also for safe travel back to New Zealand for Gillian and Tony as they return home.

Saturday 28 October / Sunday 29 October

Praise for all the Running 4 Rights team participating this weekend in the Auckland Marathon. Thanks to all the supporters who have sponsored the team. Pray that this event will continue to be a successful avenue to raise awareness and funds within the New Zealand public arena.

Research

Monday 30 October

Research is like vision: enabling us to see where we are, where we could be and possible ways to get there. Praise God for the diverse range of research going on around the TLM world – laboratory research, footwear, improved treatment for leprosy reaction, stigma research, and community awareness.

Tuesday 31 October

TLM is a member of the Leprosy Research Initiative (LRI), a global fund to encourage and support leprosy research. Pray for the success of TLM research studies in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Nigeria funded by the LRI. The results of these studies will have an impact on leprosy-affected people worldwide.