

# Quarterly Prayer Guide



October, November, December 2017

## Welcome

This is the Quarterly Prayer Guide for Oct-Dec 2017.

It is designed to be used as an accompaniment to the ASK 2017 Prayer Diary, providing updates and new prayer topics that have since arisen.

Over the next three months please join us in prayer for TLM and partners in Nepal, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Nigeria, Singapore, South Korea, India, Netherlands, England and Wales, Bangladesh and Denmark, as well as the International Office.

Thank you for supporting the work of TLM in prayer.

### Quarterly Prayer Guide

Oct, Nov, Dec 2017

Produced by The Leprosy Mission International Office  
80 Windmill Road  
Brentford  
Middlesex TW8 0QH  
UK

+ 44 (0)20 8326 6767  
friends@leprosymission.org

www.leprosymission.org

**Editor:** Heather Warne  
heather.warne@leprosymission.org

**Cover photo:** Sanjib standing tall.

**Right:** Sanjib before and after receiving his prosthetic legs.

## Crawling for years to walking in minutes



Sanjib is playing games on his mobile phone when we approach him for a story. He is using both arms which work like fingers for precision. He is shy and is hesitant when questioned but agrees to share his inspiring story with us.

Sanjib was born with congenital disability with no arms below the elbow or legs below the knee. His family comprises his parents, elder brother and sister. The elder brother, working in Qatar, is the main breadwinner whilst his parents rely on farming which is adequate for the majority of the year. Sanjib says his parents have never treated him differently to his siblings. His father used to accompany him to school until he was capable of going himself. Maybe this is why Sanjib does not feel any different to his classmates because his parents have never made him feel inadequate or incapable.

He is pursuing his school studies in grade 7 in Bhojpur. He recounts crawling to school until 11 years of age when he was given a pair of wellington boots to walk. Some of his friends and the local villagers would stare at him in a strange way but Sanjib says that has never bothered him. Some would offer to carry his bag or to carry him but Sanjib has always politely declined. To get to school he has to go uphill



and come all the way downhill back home. Monsoon seasons are the most difficult for him as the roads get very slippery. Despite all these difficulties, he has continued attending school and is able to read and write.

Sanjib was referred to Anandaban Hospital by a previous doctor. Under the CBM-supported Injury Management and Disability Prevention project, TLM Nepal is providing him with much needed prosthetic legs. Footwear technician Krishna Mijar made a mould first before fitting the prostheses on Sanjib's legs. The Physio department is working closely with Sanjib to teach him how to walk with the prostheses.

Mijar clarified that providing Sanjib with prosthetic arms would be a hindrance to his functionality rather than a help. "He would have more problems in carrying out his regular activities. For example, now he can write with the use of both arms. It may take a very long time for him to learn to just move the prosthetic arms, let alone write with one."

As Sanjib covers his legs with trousers, no one can notice that he has artificial limbs. Sanjib smiles widely as he walks. 'I am so tall now', he says walking towards his father.

## Week 40: 2 - 8 Oct

### *Nepal*

#### **Flooding**

Please continue praying for flood-affected people and communities who have not been able to return back home. As they continue living in temporary shelter, missing out on big celebrations such as the most recent Dashain and the upcoming Tihar (Hindu festivals), please pray that they will be able to recover, rebuild and that the Lord will restore their lives and minds.

#### **Visit from ALM**

Please pray for the fruitful visit of the American Leprosy Missions team to Anandaban Hospital to see the progress of the USAID/ASHA supported Trauma centre. Pray that the engineer in charge of the building process, Tek Sharma, and team will be able to showcase their work and continue to meet targets, in coordination with Article 25 (UK based architecture organisation), various contractors and workers.

#### **Grieving**

Please pray for TLM Country Leader Shovakhar Kandel, wife Laxmi and daughter Srijana as they grieve the death of Mamta, their youngest daughter and loving sister. May God provide comfort, consolation, good health and new hope in fulfilling His promises in their lives. "The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him" Nahum 1:7.

#### **Political Change**

The administrative and political structure of Nepal has now shifted to Federalism. The power

has been decentralised to local authorities and TLM Nepal has to build working relationships at local level for continuation of its services and implementation of projects. We foresee some challenges therefore please pray for God's wisdom and endurance as the team changes their working system and adapts to this change.

#### **Medical Officer's Training**

Kindly pray for the Medical Officer's training in Leprosy and Differential Diagnosis, which is scheduled for 4-9 March, 2018. Participants will come from different parts of the country and also from Sri Lanka. May the Lord bless this international collaboration that is contributing towards a global endeavour to stop transmission of leprosy.

#### **Post-Exposure Prophylaxis**

Please pray for the Leprosy Post Exposure Prophylaxis project which is in place in three endemic districts of Terai region Nepal: Kapilvastu, Rupandehi and Parsa. Please pray for smooth coordination with Government staff and communities which can be a challenging but rewarding feat.

#### **Community House**

Pray that the Kawach Consumers Cooperative, in Parsa district, will be successful in obtaining land to construct a community house/Cooperative office. This Cooperative has also started to trade soap and edible oil amongst its members and to other Cooperatives in the district. Please pray that they continue to understand the importance of networking and that they stand united.

## World Teachers Day

5 October is World Teachers Day! Give thanks for all the wonderful teachers around TLM and partners' educational projects, giving children brighter hope for the future. Pray for God's blessing in their lives and work.

## Week 41: 9 - 15 Oct

### *Belgium*

#### **Property Sold**

Praise the Lord that the TLM-owned property in Vilvoorde, Belgium could be sold advantageously. Please pray that the revenue from this sale may directly benefit many persons affected by leprosy through the many activities of the TLM Global Fellowship.

#### **World Mental Health Day**

10 October is World Mental Health Day. Stigma associated with leprosy can cause anxiety, depression and isolation amongst persons affected by leprosy. Pray for people suffering in these ways, for the counsellors and lay counsellors supporting them, and for all those seeking to reduce the stigma that causes this suffering.

## Week 42: 16 - 22 Oct

### *Finland*

#### **Travelling to New Contacts**

TLM Finland is seeking more prayer and financial support, focusing on certain areas in the country, and the team are visiting several churches and church and community groups that are new contacts in the area. Pray they will be able to adapt their message accordingly. It also means travelling two weeks at a time



– pray for good health and resilience.

### **Supporter Engagement**

TLM Finland is trying to engage personally with supporters and is publishing a calendar as a ‘thank you’, as several other European TLM offices have done. Pray for the planning and that supporters receiving it would feel well acknowledged for their wonderful generosity.

### **Public Awareness**

TLM Finland is reworking last year’s ‘Leprosy Sunday’ materials for use in a public awareness programme next year – pray for these preparations and the programme to gain many new contacts.

### **The Team**

Pray for fresh ideas and strength for the small team in Finland in their everyday work.

### *Germany*

### **People’s Generosity**

Give thanks for all the people who are thankful for their lives and share their gratitude with us. Give thanks for all the new donors TLM Germany has received from the occasion of anniversaries.

### **Special Events**

Praise God for all the creative and lovingly designed events in favour of The Leprosy Mission. Give thanks for all the people of the Methodist church in Calw and the Protestant trumpet choir of Hildrizhausen which supported TLM Germany with the amazing “Run for One World” and an open-air concert. Pray for a ripple effect from these events: “Let our work draw circles like stones in the water.”

## **Week 43: 23 - 29 Oct**

### *Nigeria*

### **Fulani Herdsmen**

Concerning the clashes between the nomadic Fulani herdsmen and farmers, and the reprisal attacks on innocent people: security agents have restored calm in some of the troubled areas, and villages that were sacked during such attacks are beginning to pick up the pieces of their lives. Give thanks that God has kept watch over TLM staff members as they travel around the project communities in the course of their work.

### **Leprosy Referral Hospital**

The Government has not yet lived up to its commitment to upgrade the Chanchaga Leprosy Referral Hospital in Niger State. A medical doctor has been posted to support the hospital twice a week, and some efforts are being made to repair the access road – pray these would reach fruition.

### **Staff Conference**

Give thanks for TLM Nigeria’s 2017 Staff Conference and Board meeting 23-25 May with the theme “Behold, I will do a new thing” (Isaiah 43:19). Everyone had the opportunity to make a fresh commitment with God, examine the priorities of life and to make concrete and practical resolutions for improvement.

### **Don’t Cry for Barbara**

The anticipated release of the movie ‘Don’t Cry for Barbara’ is still in the planning stage as God opens further opportunities and platforms to raise much awareness on the issue of leprosy, stigma and discrimination. The Catholic Church in Nigeria

are granting permission for TLM Nigeria to access all the parishes and diocese across Nigeria in collaboration with St. Vincent De Paul Society. Planning is ongoing for the film’s premiere in five major Nigerian cities.

### **Case Detection**

Praise God that progress has been made with early case detection in Nigeria and He is mightily granting speedy physical, mental, psychological and emotional healing to persons found affected by leprosy and disabilities.

### **Fundraising Plan**

Please commit the TLM Nigeria strategic fundraising plan for 2018 to God. Pray that He will favour and guide the fundraising team to the right prospective corporate sponsors, institutional funders, and individual donors; grant wisdom to harness available opportunities; and equip the team with innovative ideas for the development of new channels of income and partnership.

### **Green Worship for Change**

TLM Nigeria was nominated as one of five beneficiaries of the Green Worship for Change Initiative by a popular gospel artist – Wale Adenuga – to be part of a live gospel worship recording geared towards impacting the lives of thousands of orphans and children with special needs in Nigeria through the proceeds generated from the sales of the CDs. The sum of 20 million naira is projected to be given to each of the five charities. Pray that the sales will yield the desired result to fund the educational support project submitted by TLM Nigeria.

### **Volunteers**

Pray that God will bless the volunteers in TLM Nigeria, and that they will be encouraged

to know the impact that they are making in so many lives. Pray for more people to take action, especially as church representatives, community fundraisers and volunteer speakers.

#### Week 44: 30 Oct - 5 Nov

##### *Speaking Out*

##### **Head of Advocacy**

Give thanks for Pradeep Bagival, Head of Advocacy and Communications at the International Office. He has been actively engaged in forming a TLM Advocacy Network and putting together an advocacy strategy for the Global Fellowship. Pray for positive working together towards effective ways forward. Pray too for wisdom for Pradeep as he seeks and chooses opportunities to lobby for the rights of persons affected by leprosy.

##### **Amar Timalsina**

Give thanks for Amar Timalsina, a new member of The Leprosy Mission International and Global Fellowship Board, and also of ILEP's advisory panel of persons affected by leprosy. Pray for his involvement in these capacities and give thanks for the insight his personal experience of leprosy brings.

#### Week 45: 6 - 12 Nov

##### *Singapore*

##### **Fundraising**

The Singapore Leprosy Mission is coming to the end of its current fundraising target period. Pray that they

will be able to raise the planned SGD \$50,000 for Anandaban Hospital, Nepal.

##### *South Korea*

##### **Working Together**

Please pray for greater engagement between TLM Korea and the Global Fellowship as we seek together to defeat leprosy and transform lives.

#### Week 46: 13 - 19 Nov

##### *India*

##### **Awareness**

TLM India recently launched a community-based leprosy awareness campaign in three states of India, namely, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh. The campaign slogan is Pehla Sign Action Time (early detection and treatment). There's a wide range of stakeholders - students and their teachers, people affected by leprosy, persons with disabilities, duty bearers and civil society organisations. It will shortly be extended to other states. Please pray for the stakeholders and success of the campaign.

##### **EDPAL**

TLM India is lobbying with policy makers for the passage of the Eliminating Discrimination against People Affected by Leprosy Bill in the Parliament. Pray for God's guidance and blessings on our efforts.

##### **Increase in Leprosy**

The World Health Organization has released its leprosy statistics for 2016. There is an increase of 6.5% in new cases detected in India (that is, an additional 8,000 new cases). Pray for God's guidance to the Indian

Government and all those who are working in the field of leprosy for tackling the disease.

#### Week 47: 20 - 26 Nov

##### *Netherlands*

##### **Volunteers**

The number of volunteers working for TLM Netherlands has increased in 2017 – praise God! It is still difficult to find volunteers for specific jobs, for example online media; pray for God's provision.

##### **Surgery**

Please pray for the health of TLM Netherlands volunteer Annelize who will have surgery in November.

##### **Prayer Supporters**

The number of prayer supporters in the Netherlands has increased now to more than 400. Thank God for His faithfulness in drawing people to partner with TLM in this way.

##### **Nieuwkoop Church**

Give thanks for a church in Nieuwkoop where the children's groups are learning about leprosy and saving money for a whole year for the work of The Leprosy Mission.

##### **Leadership Workshop**

Pray for the leadership workshop taking place in Thailand from 20-26 November; for inspiration and fruitful contacts between the leaders of The Leprosy Mission.

##### **Upcoming Meetings**

Pray for a successful board meeting of The Leprosy Mission Netherlands on 28 November and a constructive meeting of staff and volunteers on 30 November.

##### **Dutch Cross-Cultural Workers**

Give thanks for Geeske Zijp's

25 years working for The Leprosy Mission – TLM Netherlands recently held an anniversary celebration for her.

#### **Week 48: 27 Nov - 3 Dec**

##### *England and Wales*

##### **Donors**

Give thanks for the generous donors who continue to support the Mission's work through TLM England and Wales. Please pray that the income for 2017 will support their target remittance of £5.5m. Please also pray that 2018 will be another year to celebrate.

##### **Iphiro Yohoolo**

The Iphiro Yohoolo project in Mozambique is supporting 320 children and young people from families affected by leprosy in primary, secondary and technical school in 2017 – including 118 new students in the north of Cabo Delgado province. Pray for the 19 parent-teacher groups seeking to improve the quality of education and encourage regular school attendance. Pray also for favour with new funding opportunities for 2018 and beyond.

##### **World Leprosy Sunday**

Pray for the Regional Managers and the volunteer speakers preparing for World Leprosy Sunday 2018 and the visits they will make to churches and groups. Pray for strength and stamina and that donors will be inspired to give to help people affected by leprosy in Niger.

##### **Stamps Volunteers**

Give thanks for the stamps volunteers who work hard

to keep up to date with trimming and sorting the stamps that are donated to The Leprosy Mission England and Wales. Pray that they will know they are loved, cared for and supported by staff. Give thanks also for Sandra who is managing the volunteers and pray for wisdom and guidance for her on the best way forward.

##### **Steve in Ethiopia**

Pray for TLM England and Wales's Programmes Officer, Steve, who is in Ethiopia this week. Pray that God will keep him safe and protected as he travels. Give thanks that he can help and advise colleagues in Ethiopia and pray for good working relationships. Pray for his family at home in the UK while he is away.

##### **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**

3 December is the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. Pray for the many people who have disabilities due to late diagnosis and treatment of leprosy. Pray too for improvements in early leprosy diagnosis around the world, so that people would be treated in time and avoid disability, and for the self-care groups helping people prevent the nerve damage caused by leprosy resulting in disability.

#### **Week 49: 4 - 10 Dec**

##### *Bangladesh*

##### **Sub-District Associations**

TLM Bangladesh is happy to share that 21 out of 28 sub-district associations in North West Bangladesh were officially registered by the Government Social Service

Department by August 2017. Thank the Lord for increasing capacity of the associations and self-help group leaders to run their organisations.

##### **Ultra-Poverty Initiative**

We see positive change in ultra-poor families who are affected by leprosy and lymphatic filariasis interventions through the North West Bangladesh Ultra-Poverty Initiative Project. effect:hope (Canada) visited Bangladesh in July and met with project staff. Give thanks for this meeting which enabled necessary adjustments in reporting. Please pray for those families who lost their livelihoods due to floods in the middle of August.

##### **Advocacy for Empowerment**

Give thanks to God for the successful completion of the first phase of the Advocacy for Empowerment Project, and pray for the new designs for the advocacy project's second phase.

##### **Integrated Approach Model**

The Advocacy for Empowerment Project is working to introduce a new Integrated Approach (360 degree) Model with partners and stakeholders. Please pray for this procedure.

##### **Dhaka CBR Project**

The Dhaka Community-Based Rehabilitation project ended in September 2017. Pray that the beneficiaries and communities will be able to continue the group activities sustainably.

##### **Flooding**

Please pray for all the people of Bangladesh who have been affected by serious flooding, many losing their homes and livelihoods. Pray that they will soon be restored.



## Week 50: 11 - 17 Dec

### *Denmark*

#### **The Board**

Earlier this year Klaus Leonhardt, the National Director for TLM Denmark for the past 10 years, resigned, and the board chose to take a much more active role. Pray that they will be blessed to fulfil their role and equipped with the skills and energy to do so.

#### **New Donors**

Donor acquisition has been difficult and the average age of donors in Denmark is increasing. Pray that TLM Denmark will be successful in acquiring new and younger donors.

#### **Partnership**

In 2018 TLM Denmark will have a partnership conference with its long-time partner The Leprosy Mission International Bangladesh. Pray that their relationship will be strengthened through this and other meetings.

## Week 51: 18 - 24 Dec

### *International Office*

#### **Office Refurbishment**

The International Office is undergoing much-needed renovations that will result in better and healthier working conditions for the staff. These are currently underway. Pray that all goes well and to schedule. Pray too for the team as they work in temporary office spaces.

#### **New Staff**

Several new members have recently joined the International Office team. A new finance position

was appointed, as well as two new human resources positions whose key focus is supporting HR needs around the Global Fellowship. There is also a new staff member taking care of the International Office's HR needs part time. Pray for these new roles and staff members as they settle in and become confident with their various responsibilities. Pray that as the Global Fellowship gets used to these new roles it will be able to make the most of the available support.

#### **Global Institutional Funding**

The International Office has been trying to create a new Global Institutional Funding Coordinator position, and having some trouble finding the right person for this very specialist role. Hopefully by this time we will have hired someone – please pray for God's guiding hand and blessing over this initiative to increase the work we are able to support worldwide.

#### **Signage Project**

Please pray for the project to install signage on the roof of the International Office – a good potential source of income, but one that has experienced a lot of challenges. Pray for Brent as he seeks to finalise the plans with contractors.

#### **Leprosy Control Approach**

A global taskforce has developed an innovative church and community-based approach to leprosy control which has been distributed via a high quality booklet. Pray for good understanding of the process, and for Members now considering how to best incorporate this approach into their programmes.

## **Christmas**

As we approach Christmas, pray that our Christian staff around the world will continue to bring the real meaning of Christmas into their daily work that patients, programme participants and staff who do not yet know the Good News would come to know Jesus.

## Week 52: 25 - 31 Dec

### **Merry Christmas!**

The feast day of your birth resembles You, Lord

Because it brings joy to all humanity.

Old people and infants alike enjoy your day.

Your day is celebrated from generation to generation.

Kings and emperors may pass away,

And the festivals to commemorate them soon lapse.

But your festival will be remembered until the end of time.

Your day is a means and a pledge of peace.

At Your birth heaven and earth were reconciled,

Since you came from heaven to earth on that day

You forgave our sins and wiped away our guilt.

You gave us so many gifts on the day of your birth:

A treasure chest of spiritual medicines for the sick;

Spiritual light for the blind;

The cup of salvation for the thirsty;

The bread of life for the hungry.

In the winter when trees are bare,

You give us the most  
succulent spiritual fruit.

In the frost when the earth is  
barren,

You bring new hope to our  
souls.

In December when seeds are  
hidden in the soil,

The staff of life springs forth  
from the virgin womb

(St. Ephraim the Syrian 306-  
373 AD)

### **Rest and Recuperation**

Pray for rest, recuperation  
and a blessed time together  
with family and friends for all  
TLM staff, beneficiaries and  
supporters over this festive  
period.