



ASK DAILY DEVOTIONAL

June 2025



Welcome from the editor

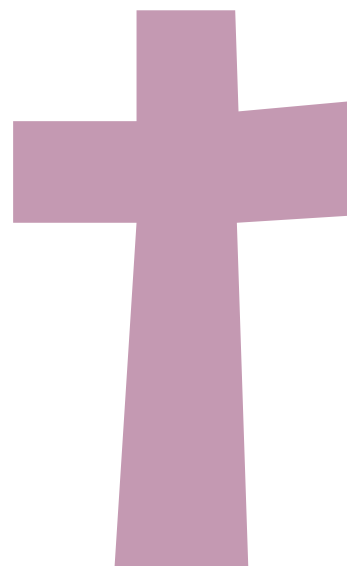
In June, we will pray for three countries and for our Global Voice in the ASK Prayer Diary. We have also the privilege to take part of devotions from those countries. The last week, TLM Australia and TLM New Zealand, who have a lot of engagement in Indonesia, will share their thoughts with us.

2-6 June
9-13 June
16-20 June
23-27 June

Hungary
Global Voice
DR Congo
Indonesia

We pray that Scriptures, thoughts and prayers will be a source of blessing for all of us, and that the reading will encourage and stimulate our prayers for the work of TLM.

Allan Ekstedt



“Paul, Silas and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you. Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians’ Faith. We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labour prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you...” 1 Thessalonians 1:1-4

Flying on the Wings of Prayer

Ministering with my prayers is a great joy for me each day. I feel deeply the misery, need, hunger for love, and stigma of the patients. And I also feel the strength of the dedicated and selfless practical work that the staff of TLM are doing everywhere.

Dealing with people is the most difficult but most beautiful business in the world. The Lord certainly will reward these servants in this life and in the next, too! The reward is that they may see the healing of a leprosy patient and accompany him/her through all the struggles; this is the reward given to those who are standing, working, and serving in their places. To God be the glory for conveying these tremendous responsibilities on capable men and women, that they may admire the glory of the Lord through the lives of healed patients!

I am very happy to be part of this work. I wish I could give more funds. But I continue to pray for the work of The Leprosy Mission, for the patients, their recovery, for the needs of staff, and for their love and steadfastness. I firmly know that He who had started this good cause, is faithful and will lead my brothers and sisters all along.

He is faithful and completes His work.

Éva Káldi is a volunteer and supports the prayer ministry in Hungary

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank you for all those who are part of your work worldwide among people affected by leprosy! Thank you for involving me, too, in this and I pray for your using me for your glory and the benefit of those in need. In Jesus’ name. Amen



Psalm 66, 1–12, 16

“Come and hear!”

The Psalmist calls all the inhabitants of the earth to rejoice, to praise, to sing, and to extol the glory of God. He also calls us to worship before God's perfection: glorifying His omnipotence, holiness, goodness, faithfulness, truth, and incomprehensible grace toward man.

“For God's works are marvellous,” says the Psalmist, when we look at the created world that He has made; His power was manifested later, here on earth, in Jesus Christ. He is the Saviour who saves His people from their sins.

The Psalmist calls, “Come and see the works of God!” God made a dry path through the Red Sea, just as He did when the people crossed the Jordan. Then the people of God burst into joy, extolling and praising God, who would send a Saviour whose reign will never end.

Throughout the history of Israel, the Lord allowed his people to be tested, he refined them like silver, and sometimes he allowed the people to be exposed to terrifying danger, BUT God did not let go of His people's hands, did not allow them to be defeated, and in His overflowing love He brought them to abundance, which will be fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

The Psalmist calls, “Come and hear” what the Lord has done in his soul. The work of God in the soul of the psalmist can only be heard, he tells this to all God-fearing people. God intervened in his life, His grace led him from death to life, He became his personal Saviour, He had mercy on him, and He praised and glorified Him with thanksgiving.

Éva Sári is a volunteer, prayer ministry coordinator in Hungary. She worked as pedagogical developer. Since the age of 33 she has been serving the Lord Jesus her Saviour. She has 2 adult sons and 2 grandchildren.

Prayer

Lord Almighty, we praise you. Yours is worship and thanksgiving. We bow before you and know that we can come to you thru the merits of Jesus Christ. We give thanks that we can know that you are the Lord of history. You created and wisely directed the lives of people. Bless the ministry of The Leprosy Mission throughout the world! We pray for a world without leprosy!



“I will put my Spirit in you and you will live” Ezekiel 37:14

Hope in despair!

Dear Brother/Sister in Christ, God is close to you! What desperate situations surround you now? List them all! God is speaking to us in these hopeless situations through the prophecy of Ezekiel. His book is about: Hope in hopelessness!

Ezekiel speaks in many places about responsibility in times of hopelessness and how hopeless situations have happened because we have not taken our responsibility to God seriously. Ezekiel proclaimed God's will in the most desperate time of his people's history, in the midst of captivity.

What is amazing is that in this most desperate of times, Ezekiel understood that God's glory is still with them and He would send His Spirit and a new heart would be granted to them. Even if the members of His people think of themselves as being as broken and dry as unburied bones, the Lord can make even those dry bones new and restore His people again.

This is the hope I proclaim to you today! After your repentant, broken, responsible heart, God will give you restoration! In Jesus Christ, God has summed up this hopeful solution for all. He died for our sins. By His resurrection He opened the way to your resurrection and to the resurrection of your loved ones. He wants us to be where He is – in heaven! So, trust despite hopelessness, for our God is a God of hope. His glory is near you now!

Pastor Dr Ágoston Dobos is a local pastor and world mission mobiliser. He serves as a prayer/translation volunteer for TLM Hungary. He is the eldest grandson of Rev Károly Dobos, founder of TLM Hungary

Prayer

Almighty Lord, our heavenly Father! Thank you for your encouragement! Jesus Christ, thank you for redeeming us on the cross and taking our sins upon yourself! Give us your Holy Spirit! Grant us that we may be obedient to You and give hope to others in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen



“Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.” 1 Thessalonians 3:11-13

The apostle Paul prays while asking for a blessing! In this prayer of blessing and guidance, we can see what it means to "mobilise" the forces of the kingdom of God. **May it increase, enrich, strengthen...**

The first thing I want to say in this regard is about God's possibilities or "will". How and why does God want to be present in the life of the church? How and why does God want to be present in your life? To add something to your life and to fill it – with joy, peace, tranquillity, love of life...

Let us now recall for a moment the Gospel of John: "For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved." (John 3:17) God sent His Son into the world(!) **to save, to deliver, to heal, to preserve, to keep!**

In other words, here again, God is not sending Jesus to take away, but to add! Jesus came to save, to deliver, to heal, to refresh, to enrich – the Apostle Paul asks for it! This is a great example of how we can and should pray for one another. May the Lord enrich you with great peace, contentment and joy! Amen.

András Dandé is a Reformed Church pastor and religion teacher. He volunteers as a translator for TLM Hungary. Together with his wife and their three sons they live in Miskolc. Their mission is to lead a congregation living for others and for each other, for the greater glory of God.

Prayer

Lord, we bless and praise you for your will and your opportunities!
We ask that you strengthen us in one another and strengthen us in
the ministry to which you have called us! Thank you for being
present among us now with your healing, strength and deliverance!
Yours alone is the glory, through Jesus Christ! Amen



“My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Corinthians 12:9

To live by grace

“Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; You’re Mine.” Isaiah 43:1

*–Thank you, Lord, for your forgiveness. Thank You, for Your salvation.
This love is incomprehensible.*

“Follow Me!” Matthew 9:9

*–I’m coming, Lord. Should I love you? It’s easy, I can do it. Even my husband, when he’s grumpy, my child, when he’s cheeky? It’s hard, but it can be done. Should I love the neighbour who is unfriendly, the colleague who is mean? I can’t do that. I failed.
Forgive me, God.*

“Son, your sins are forgiven you.” Mark 2:5

–Please send me your Holy Spirit.

I’ll send it. „For everyone who asks, receives.” Luke 11:10

*–With Your Holy Spirit, it’s easier. Let them see You through me. You’re Good and Almighty.
With You, I’ll succeed. What are You calling me to?*

“I created you for good deeds, which I prepared for you.” Ephesians 2:10

*–This is fantastic! With you, I’m in my place and I don’t have to live on my own strength
because you promised that your grace is sufficient for me and
because your strength is made perfect in my weakness.*

Dear Sister or Brother in faith, near or far, come, let us walk together on the path of grace, for the glory of God!

Ramóna Dénes is a child of God, wife, mother of 4 children, kindergarten teacher, and board chair of the “Foundation for The Leprosy Mission Hungary

Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for your grace. Show me the tasks you have for me.
Give me courage through your Holy Spirit, so I can do what you’re asking me to do.



“My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom but God’s power.”

1 Corinthians 2:4–5

We live in a diverse and rapidly evolving society with various beliefs and practices. This is the type of environment that existed when Paul wrote his letter to the church in Corinth.

Like the believers in Corinth, we today face the temptation to rely on intellectualism and eloquent messages that inspire but do not bring about real change. This risk is even greater in our fast-paced digital age, where our voices can reach a wider audience more quickly.

Paul reminded the believers in Corinth that he had previously come to them not with wise and persuasive words but with a demonstration of divine power. This reminder resonates with us today as we must exercise caution to ensure we do not fall into the trap of diminishing the power of the cross in a bid to reach global audiences (1 Corinthians 1:7).

So, how do we avoid falling into this trap? Through intentional prayer we humbly seek God’s power to bless our messages; whether we have a local or global audience. We need his power worldwide to change the hearts of policymakers and build bridges where we see only valleys.

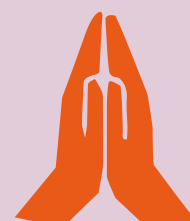
As followers of Christ, we possess spiritual wisdom rather than merely human wisdom. Therefore, as we proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvellous light (1 Peter 2:9) in the various spaces we occupy, let us remember that the most potent and purposeful message we can deliver is one that is Christ-centred, Spirit-dependent, and Cross-shaped.



Dr Tabeth Masengu (PhD) is Director of Advocacy, EU-CORD Christian Network in Brussels, Belgium. Tabeth is a member of TLM’s Advocacy Working Group.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, may our words always be Christ-centred, filled with the power of the Holy Spirit. May we diligently draw our power from the one true source so that we may be part of lasting change in our local and global communities.
Amen



"Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the Lord and serve him shoulder to shoulder." Zephaniah 3:9

Have you ever been sat round a table with people from different cultures?

You might notice we eat differently, speak differently, dress differently, or find different things funny, but somehow, we are still drawn together. In God's family, these differences don't divide us. Instead, they show how He brings us together to be united. We're not brought together because we're the same, but because of our compassion for others, and ultimately, because of our shared faith in Jesus.

Zephaniah gives us this picture of people from every nation calling on God's name and serving Him shoulder to shoulder. It's a reminder that God's heart is for all people to worship Him together. And we get to be part of that, using our voices for others.

Jesus did the same. He brought together people from totally different walks of life, from fishermen to tax collectors, and even political enemies. He didn't try to make them all the same. He called them friends and sent them out together in His name.

Across TLM, we see people from every background standing together, rooted in God's love. When we raise our voice together, across cultures, borders, and languages, we don't just speak for justice and healing; we declare the name of the Lord.

Let's continue to serve shoulder to shoulder calling on His name and reflecting His heart for the world.



Daisy Mansfield, Programmes and Advocacy Officer (TLMGB) and a member of TLM's Advocacy Working Group.

Prayer

Lord, thank you for bringing us together. Thank you for celebrating our differences and showing us that we're stronger when we stand united in you. Help us to serve you side by side, to love others, and to reflect your heart of justice and compassion.

Amen



“...blessing, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honour, power, and might be to our God forever and ever.” Revelation 7:12

Today is a wonderful day because I have life and I can breathe. I have a family blessed by my heavenly Father. But God has also allowed me to remember, once again, my peace of mind. It is so important in what I do daily because my happiness and that of those around me depend on that peace. That is why we must respect and empathise with those around us, because we provide them with that which is so important for our daily lives. Honour and glory be to our God and Creator.

I have also learned to distance myself from all those and everything that takes away my peace and harmony. I thank my Lord for everything that comes into my life daily and makes me increasingly humble, respectful, and full of love.

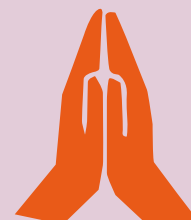
May this moment of reflection be a thanksgiving that our God receives in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen.



Lucrecia Vasquez Acevedo, 63, Colombian, mother of 3 biological and 3 adopted children, person affected by Hansen's disease, and currently a national and international leader, representing people affected by leprosy for more than 10 years. (Lucrecia is a Member of our Advocacy Working Group)

Prayer

Lord God, Almighty Father, may our path always be blessed and our actions be for the honour and glory of your name. May our families accept you as our Lord and Saviour, and may your light always guide our path. May every action we take make us better human beings worthy of your blessing. May our families receive your holy blessing today, tomorrow, and always.



“Speak up for people who cannot speak for themselves. Protect the rights of all who are helpless.” Proverbs 31:8

This verse encourages those in positions of authority, those who work for the most vulnerable people, and different stakeholders to speak up for those who are unable to speak for themselves. It motivates to advocate for the rights of the poor and vulnerable, like Persons Affected by Leprosy.

In a world where many voices are silenced by stigma, discriminations, poverty, and injustice, the call to be a “Global Voice” is not just strategic, it is spiritual. Proverbs 31:8 reminds us of God’s desire for His people to be vocal advocates for those who cannot speak for themselves. For people affected by leprosy, speaking out is often not a choice; fear of discrimination, loss of livelihood, climate vulnerabilities, and rejection keep them hidden.

As members of the TLM Global Fellowship, we are called to be a collective voice, amplifying the cries of those who live in silence. This voice is not only heard in formal advocacy spaces, but also in our prayers, our presence in communities with love and care, and the dignity we restore by simply listening. Even the responsibilities we have towards them is to realise our commitments from the deepness of our hearts.

Being a global voice means using our platforms, our positions, and our prayers to influence change locally, nationally, and also globally. It is choosing to be bold in love, care, clear in truth, and constant in compassion. When we speak as one voice across nations, cultures, and languages, we become a powerful witness to the world of God’s justice and mercy.

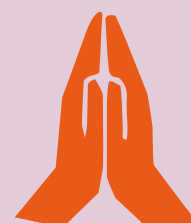
Let us continue to speak, act, and pray until every person affected by leprosy is heard, healed, empowered, and included.



Monika Biswas is the National Lead Advocacy at TLM Bangladesh, a human rights defender promoting dignity, inclusion, and justice for people affected by leprosy and also most vulnerable communities. Monika is a member of TLM’s Advocacy Working Group.

Prayer

Lord, give us courage to be a voice for the voiceless. Unite us across borders to speak truth, bring justice, and reflect Your heart for the forgotten. May our global voice echo Your love to every corner of the world. Justice is not a dream but Your command. Please guide us to act accordingly.
Amen.



“Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets.” Matthew 7:12

There is a reason why this verse is known as “the Golden Rule”. It provides guidance on how to approach any interpersonal interaction and/or relationship. It leads us to question the way we think about and talk to, and act towards any person.

When I think about it in the context of my work, it has been a guiding principle. Raising our voice about the issues that persons affected by leprosy face is a way to follow this principle.

However, I do believe that this principle can also help us to go even further, and further. We have been doing this as a Mission. We don’t just speak out, but we strive to create spaces for persons affected to raise their own voices. Of course, this approach brings some challenges, but it also brings more authenticity and power to our message, while it usually is a very empowering experience for persons affected.

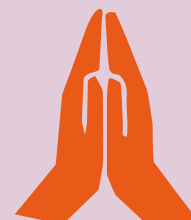
I trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide the Global Fellowship of The Leprosy Mission on this journey. That we may be questioned again and again, and that we may improve the way we think and talk about and treat others.



Mathias Duck, Paraguayan, 46, Cynthia’s husband, Gabo, Nico, and Alana’s father, Global Advocacy Lead, person affected by leprosy.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, You gave us so many perfect examples, treating others with love, compassion, dignity, grace and mercy. We pray that we may continue to experience these things in your presence and that love, compassion, dignity, grace and mercy, would flow from us to any person we encounter. Amen



“For we are labourers together with God. You are God’s field, God’s building.” 1 Corinthians 3:9

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you, that you should go and bear fruit. ” John 15:16

In 1 Corinthians 3:9, the apostle Paul reminds us that God's work is a collective effort, led by the Holy Spirit. Everyone is called to contribute to this work with humility and collaboration, as two of our values at TLM also emphasise.

TLM Congo is now at a turning point: the local governance process. This is a great opportunity to strengthen its autonomy and better serve people affected by leprosy. This process will be carried out in sincere collaboration with churches, the government, organisations of people affected by leprosy, all those who have worked within the Mission in the DRC, and the entire TLM Fellowship family.

The success of this process depends not only on good human strategies, but, above all, on listening to God. From the Gospel of John 15:16, we learn that Christ is the One who is at the origin of the choices we will have to make, and we leave the leadership of this initiative to Him. Having responded to His call, we can only bear fruit.

Like the early church (Acts 13:2-3) which prayed and listened to the Holy Spirit before sending Barnabas and Saul, we too are called to seek divine guidance and remain attentive to it by remaining Christ-centred in all we do.



Christian Bulambo is currently the Interim Director of TLM Congo. He joined TLM in 2004 and worked in the finance department for 19 years.

Prayer

Lord, raise up leaders of integrity, wisdom, compassion, and service. May Your Spirit guide every decision so that this work benefits those affected by leprosy in the DRC and continues to bear lasting fruit for Your glory.



“The elder, to Gaius, the beloved, whom I love in the truth. Beloved, I wish that in all things you may prosper and be in health, just as your soul prospers.” 3 John 1:3

**“You therefore, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard from me among many witnesses, these commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others also .”
1 Timothy:1-2**

The Organisation of People Affected by Leprosy in Congo (OPALCO) was created on February 18, 2018 with the aim of advocating for the improvement of living conditions, for physical and spiritual well-being, and the promotion of their rights (3 John 1:3).

This organisation is growing today because of its tangible results in advocacy, awareness raising, referral of suspected leprosy cases and reduction of self-stigma. But, it still has many challenges to overcome given the size of the DRC. It needs our technical, spiritual, and financial support so that it becomes capable of saving lives by communicating accurate messages in the affected communities and by approaching decision-makers with confidence during the advocacy sessions organised. In 1 Timothy 2:1-2, Timothy who was still young is emboldened to be strong in the grace that is in Jesus Christ, who is able to transform what is weak to become strong.

Our role as facilitators in TLM is to support OPALCO, to empower it through training and coaching so that it can talk about leprosy, and defend its rights without us. We must entrust to OPALCO everything we have learned in TLM during training and other workshops. It is made up of faithful and capable women and men. According to 3 John, OPALCO must prosper in all respects, that is, in all areas of life.



Mr Raphael Mulamba, Head of Program and Safeguarding in the DRC and Focal Point of the Integral Mission. 19 years of loyalty to TLM DRC.

Prayer

Lord, strengthen OPALCO to prosper in every way, may it carry the message of leprosy higher and advocate for the promotion of the rights of people affected by leprosy. Thank you, Lord, for helping it become this strong organization and a reference in the DRC in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen



"In the sweat of your face you will eat bread, until you return to the ground, from whence you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19

**"All labor brings abundance, but idle talk only leads to want."
Proverbs 14:23**

"But know this, that whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." 2 Corinthians 9:6

After the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, God instituted work for man so that he could find something to eat. God loves man to work. God does not like laziness or idleness. He gave man to the earth for him to work on it, and by working on it, man benefits for his life.

Proverbs 14:23 makes it clear that there is profit in all work. Never underestimate your work, never be ashamed of it. All honest work is pleasing to God. He who devotes himself properly to his work will eventually profit from it. But he who spends his time only talking without working will always be poor. He will miss even what is vital to him.

Paul's epistle to the Corinthians further states, "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." The Bible encourages us to work properly, not excessively, and not carelessly. Thus, financial stability can be achieved by building an emergency fund and saving for major expenses.

Productive work contributes to empowerment and stable mental health. People will experience fewer worries, concerns, and anxieties if they can meet their basic social needs. We encourage our psychological support groups for people affected by neglected tropical diseases to become aware of this.



Pierre OMUMBU OTSHUDI LUHAKA, Physiotherapist by training and Project Manager at TLM Kasai since 2016.

Odette BAMBI BAPEDI, serving people affected by leprosy in Kasai since 2006 and currently Finance and Administration Assistant at TLM Kasai since 2016.



Prayer

For our support groups, we ask the Lord to grant them the physical strength necessary for the work, but also the wisdom in managing what they produce.



“Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:24-25

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell in unity! ...Let every soul be subject to the higher powers.” Romans 13:1-4

In Hebrews and Psalms, it is a question of unity and the knowledge of living together that must characterise our organisation as a TLM family and with our state and parastatal partners. This unity must be motivated by mutual love, especially towards people affected by leprosy and other Neglected Tropical Diseases.

We must show one another love without hypocrisy and, above all, adopt the same attitude that Jesus showed toward vulnerable people. Jesus showed compassion for those affected by leprosy, even touching those considered impure by Jewish law. If we want to imitate Christ, we should promote the rights of people affected by leprosy and other forms of disability. We will consider them as our brothers and sisters, avoiding all forms of discrimination.

To achieve our objectives and ensure the sustainability of our actions, we must seek the involvement of political, religious, customary authorities, etc., to collaborate and maintain good relations with them. This can only be possible if we obey and submit to the laws of the country that regulate the health sector, non-profit organisations, and NGOs. This is why the Epistle to the Romans asks us to remain subject to the authorities, because they are established by God.

We are called upon to foster a climate of understanding and collaboration with decision-makers so that they are sensitive to the needs of people affected by leprosy and other vulnerable people in the DRC, particularly in Congo Central and Sankuru.



Joachim ONTENG A ISONGO has been a project manager at Sankuru since October 2024.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, you have entrusted us with this noble mission of contributing to improving the living conditions of people affected by leprosy in all its dimensions. We ask you to accompany us in all that we do and plan to do for the vulnerable.



“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”

Romans 12:18

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives, give I to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.” John 14:27

The Apostle Paul knew that insecurity and lack of peace reign in the world. As Christ himself had predicted that in the last days there will be wars and conflicts between tribes, nations etc. Peace and security are not the nature of the world because it is characterized by selfishness, pride, lack of love, hatred, violence, the pursuit of particular interests, and the lust for minerals. All these are among the root causes of the cycle of wars and endless violence in our country and especially in the East. This creates suffering and total despair among the people and increases the precariousness, especially for the most vulnerable.

For Christians, this situation is not a surprise because peace is not of the nature of the world and it is only Christ who is our peace for us.

The world seeks peace but does not find it because it is not of this world. Only God can grant us true peace even in the most alarming situations.

As Christians, we are called to preach true love and reconciliation as the true means to resolve the conflicts ravaging the DRC because force between the parties will do nothing. “Those who have received Christ and listen to him will rest confidently, will live quietly and without fear of evil ” (Proverbs 1:33).



Marcellin LIBAKU HAMULI, TLM Congo Community Facilitator since 2021 in South Kivu.

Prayer

The DRC is currently facing several challenges in its eastern region. Let us pray that God will touch the hearts of those who sow violence and grant them peace and security. May God touch the hearts of all warring parties by endowing them with patriotic love.



**"Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."
Romans 13:1**

TLM Australia is funding leprosy activity in Indonesia through NLR Indonesia, specifically through the Leprosy Friendly Village (LFV) model and an Urban Leprosy project. The Department of Health, together with the Department of Planning, has begun an initiative to support an omnibus Presidential Regulation on leprosy, rabies, schistosomiasis, and filariasis. This will require processes similar to a parliamentary inquiry with evidence and hearings. The eventual passing of this Regulation will give local governments the authority to push for line items in their budgets relating to leprosy. This is therefore a great opportunity to bring about structural change to defeat leprosy.

The way the government operates in Indonesia is that there are parallel lines of policy and funding, yet they don't always intersect in a way that planning in other governments might. Therefore the higher the level of authority an agency can get endorsement from, the more chance there is of policy being enacted at the district, sub-district, and village levels. This is important because that is where funding decisions are made. The LFV project has already experienced success in its 20 target villages, putting in leprosy line items into their budgets. This is a result of the district regent promulgating a regulation on leprosy. Just imagine if there was a Presidential Regulation - and even more so to link it to other neglected diseases that people suffer! God wants people created in his image to enjoy life to the full. May people see God's hand in this.

Andrew Newmarch is Senior Program Officer in International Programs at TLM Australia. He has interacted with Indonesia for many years.

Prayer

**Lord, we lift up the government of Indonesia. We pray for leaders to act with justice, compassion and integrity so that the nation may experience Your healing power. May we be agents of Your kingdom in all spheres so that You may be glorified through our service to others.
Amen**



"He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt." Deuteronomy 10:18-19

Throughout Scripture, God's heart is revealed for the vulnerable—those displaced, wandering, and struggling to find stability. Many internal migrants move in search of work, safety, or opportunity, yet they often encounter barriers to healthcare, housing, and basic necessities. In these hardships, God reminds us that He sees and cares for them.

Jesus Himself was a sojourner. As a child, He fled with His family to Egypt to escape persecution (Matthew 2:13-15). He walked among the marginalised, healing the sick, and restoring dignity to the forgotten. His ministry was a living testimony of God's love for those who are overlooked.

The Urban Leprosy Project in Jakarta, Indonesia is implemented by NLR Indonesia and funded by TLM Australia through a government grant. The project focuses on internal migrants who have moved to Jakarta from other islands in search of work, often manual labour around the factories and ports in Jakarta. The cramped conditions and lack of resources are conducive conditions for transmitting leprosy. Not only that, but there is a distrust of government clinics and fear that a leprosy diagnosis will be communicated elsewhere. Therefore people often go to private clinics. This, however, is counter-productive because many private doctors are not familiar with leprosy and often provide false diagnoses together with recommendations for pharmaceuticals that will not heal the patients.

As followers of Christ, we are called to reflect His compassion. We can be instruments of God's justice and mercy for those struggling to access the care they need.

Andrew Newmarch is Senior Program Officer in International Programs at TLM Australia. He has interacted with Indonesia for many years.

Prayer

Lord, You are the refuge of the weary and the provider for the needy. We lift up those who are struggling to find healthcare, shelter, and sustenance. May Your justice prevail to strengthen the sojourners and remind them that they are never alone. Amen



"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing"— this verse provides deep insights for organizations striving to create a positive and effective workplace culture. In any organisational context, the act of encouragement is a powerful catalyst for fostering collaboration, enhancing morale, and driving success.

When team members prioritise building each other up, they create a supportive environment that encourages open communication and shared ideas. This sense of community is essential, as individuals feel valued and empowered to contribute their unique skills. In organisations focused on humanitarian missions, it empowers staff and volunteers to tackle challenging tasks with optimism and determination.

Furthermore, the verse highlights the reciprocal nature of encouragement. Just as individuals uplift their peers, they also cultivate resilience within themselves. The act of encouraging others reinforces a positive cycle—when one person feels supported, they are more inclined to extend that support in return.

In conclusion, embodying the spirit of this verse transforms organisational culture. It promotes collective well-being and enhances productivity, ultimately leading to a more profound impact on the mission. By actively encouraging one another, organisations can not only achieve their objectives but also nurture a thriving community where everyone feels connected, valued, and inspired to contribute to a common purpose.

Action: Do an act of encouragement to someone if you have been reflecting on this bible verse today.



Jestine Kuriakose, Project Manager- Programmes, TLM New Zealand

Prayer

Father, we come before You with grateful hearts for the opportunity to serve together in our organisation. Thank You for the remainder to encourage one another and build each other up.

Help us to recognise the unique gifts and contributions of each individual and inspire us to uplift one another through our words and actions.



“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests... keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” Ephesians 6:18

One of my pastors at church has a cup that reads "Love Prays". Just two simple words, yet they carry so much weight.

Prayer isn't just something Christians do —it's who we are. It is a powerful gift. It's not a task to check off a list, it is a vital part of a loving relationship with God.

Jesus modelled it very well for us. Jesus prayed early in the morning (Mark 1:35), all night before choosing the apostles (Luke 6:12), for his disciples (John 17), and even for those who crucified Him (Luke 23:34). Jesus didn't pray because He had to — He prayed because He loved deeply.

When Jesus taught us how to pray, He started with "Our Father in heaven..." (Matthew 6:9). Not "My" Father", but "Our". That one word makes a big difference. It reminds us that prayer isn't just personal — it's collective. We're part of God's family, and Christianity is meant to be lived out together – not in isolation.

The Great Commandment calls us to love our neighbours. Love is more than words—it's action. One of the most powerful and loving things we can do for others is pray for them. Our love for God leads to prayer; our love for others should lead to prayer, too.

When we pray for someone, we are inviting God to move in their lives. It's about partnering with God to love them well.

Love prays — because love seeks what is best for others. It costs little but means so much.

So, let's not just say we love others—let's show it through our actions. Because *Love Prays*.

Kelsey Kwan has been part of the Marketing and Fundraising team of The Leprosy Mission New Zealand for the last 8 years.

Prayer

Lord, help us to love deeply, as Jesus did. Teach us to pray not out of obligation, but out of genuine love for You and others. May our prayers be a source of healing, peace, and wisdom, inviting Your presence into the lives of those we care for. In Jesus' Name, Amen



"GOD is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging." Psalm 46:1-3

A Refuge in Times of Trial

In the midst of life's storms, Psalm 46:1-3 reminds us that GOD is our refuge—our safe place and stronghold, no matter what challenges we face. For those of us journeying alongside people affected by leprosy, this scripture offers profound comfort. Leprosy, with its devastating physical and emotional toll, can feel like an insurmountable mountain, quaking and surging in the lives of those affected. But GOD promises to be there in the hardest of times, a constant presence when fear threatens to overwhelm.

Just as a city relies on its walls for protection in times of danger, we are invited to find refuge in GOD'S loving care. Whether the mountains of hardship loom large or the waves of suffering roar around us, we need not fear. GOD'S strength is greater than any trial, and HE is always near, ready to help. As we extend hope and healing to those suffering with leprosy, may we remember that we are not alone in our struggles. GOD is with us—HE is our ever-present help, steadying us when the ground beneath feels unstable.



Nadia Paul is the Supporter Engagement Manager at The Leprosy Mission New Zealand, passionate about bringing hope and healing to those affected by leprosy.

Prayer

**LORD, thank YOU for being our refuge and strength. In times of hardship, help us to trust in YOUR presence and peace. Guide us as we bring hope to those in need.
Amen**

