



Prayer & Praise

Strengthening the Leprosy Mission
Family through Prayer

January 2025

*"You crown the year with Your
goodness, And Your paths
drip with abundance."*

Psalm 65:11

Worldwide

Wednesday 1 January

Happy 2025! Please pray that all the initiatives and programmes of the Leprosy Mission will bear fruit this year so that the world will be closer to having no child with leprosy by the year 2035.

Thursday 2 January

Give thanks that The Leprosy Mission Myanmar works in collaboration with the Myanmar Association of Persons Affected by Leprosy. Thank the Lord that MAPAL members are great assets in trying to find new cases of leprosy, as people respond to the stories of others affected by leprosy and are encouraged to come forward for diagnosis and treatment.

Friday 3 January

Niger is a tough place to live, with a very hot climate, poor rainfall, a high cost of living, insecurity, irregular

electricity supply and the effects of the coup. Please pray for wisdom for the government and its partners and for the restoration of diplomatic ties between Niger and both its neighbours, and with western nations. Please pray for the many people who are very vulnerable to food and job insecurity in Niger.

Saturday 4 January/ Sunday 5 January

'I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.' 1 Timothy 2: 1 Give thanks to God who hears and answers prayer, hold to the belief that our work is the Lord's and realise that all our efforts are in vain without God's blessing and power.

Bangladesh

Monday 6 January

As programme activities are rolled out please pray that people affected by leprosy will become actively involved. Pray that they will be encouraged and hopeful for their own and their families' future. Pray for breakthrough in awareness around leprosy and its cure.

Tuesday 7 January

Give thanks for the research that is being carried out in Bangladesh. Please pray for all the people affected by leprosy who are taking part in research. Pray that the research will have clear results, as The Leprosy Mission aims to eliminate leprosy. Please pray for all the staff involved and for all the stakeholders with interest in the eradication of leprosy.

Wednesday 8 January

Please pray for all the people affected by leprosy who are unable to close their eyes due to nerve damage. In some cases this can be corrected by surgery. Please pray for successful surgery for many. Eye exercises must be carried out as well, and in some cases are the only option if the patient has not received early treatment. Please pray for all those in this situation that their eyes can be corrected.

Thursday 9 January

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Friday 10 January

Give thanks for the Bangladeshi government's Leprosy Strategy. The advocacy initiatives of TLM Bangladesh aim to ensure this strategy is effectively implemented. Please pray for godly wisdom and discernment for TLM Bangladesh as they engage in advocacy work to bring positive change for people affected by leprosy and their communities.

Saturday 11 January/ Sunday 12 January

DBLM Hospital is the country's main centre for managing disabilities and complications caused by leprosy. Please pray about the plans to improve facilities at the hospital. This includes expansion of the laboratory services to be able to conduct PCR tests to confirm diagnosis of leprosy, and to test for drug resistance.

Bougainville

Monday 13 January

The grant agreement between the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and The Leprosy Mission NZ for the next phase of the Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme was signed late last year. Please pray that the BHCP reaches its goal of creating healthy, empowered, inclusive and sustainable communities over the next five years.

Tuesday 14 January

Through the Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme, communities learn the causes and consequences of leprosy. Give thanks that there are far fewer people now who believe leprosy is a curse. They know that it is a curable disease because of people in their communities who have been healed.

Wednesday 15 January

Give thanks for the Village Health Volunteers who are helping to improve diet and hygiene within the communities. A well-nourished child can better fight off leprosy as they will have strong immune systems. Give thanks for the kindness of NZ supporters who have helped train Village Health Volunteers to find hidden cases of leprosy.

Thursday 16 January

Village Health Volunteers raise awareness about diseases such as leprosy and malaria, identify villagers who are ill, and refer people to district health clinics for diagnosis and treatment. Give thanks that since the programme began more than 2500 Village

Health Volunteers and 2100 village leaders have received training on community health development, leadership and governance.

Friday 17 January

District Facilitators travel to remote villages to train and monitor Village Health Volunteers, who are responsible for the health education in their communities. Please pray for the safety of the District Facilitators as they travel and stay in the villages. Pray that they will be encouraged by the change of mindset and the improved environments in the communities.

Saturday 18 January/ Sunday 19 January

Give thanks for the BHCP with its focus on preventative health, which is cost-effective and reduces the need for curative health. Also give thanks that the burden of cost on the under-resourced health system in Bougainville is reduced.

World Leprosy Day

Monday 20 January

World Leprosy Day is on Sunday 26th. Many people think leprosy no longer exists. Please pray that through the activities of World Leprosy Day throughout the world many people will become aware of leprosy and be willing to work towards its eradication.

Tuesday 21 January

Please pray for all the teams around the world who are making preparations for World Leprosy Day. Pray that they will have peace, wisdom and energy and that their work will be completed in good time. Give thanks for the Organisations of People Affected by Leprosy, who have a huge role to play for World Leprosy Day.

Wednesday 22 January

Organisations of people affected by Leprosy operate at all levels of society. Self-help groups provide training and opportunity for people to improve their income, health and well-being. Please pray for self-help groups in Bangladesh, India and Nepal to operate successfully so people affected by leprosy can realise their dreams as life improves.

Thursday 23 January

Organisations of People affected by Leprosy take responsibility for advocacy at regional, national and international levels. Please pray that the stigma of

leprosy will diminish as officials and leaders realise the value contributed to their communities by people affected by leprosy who advocate for others.

Friday 24 January

Early tell-tale signs of leprosy are discoloured patches on the skin. These are just the tip of the iceberg. Please pray that the activities of World Leprosy Day will increase understanding of the damage that the disease can inflict on people's lives, destroying nerves and leading to disability.

Saturday 25 January/ Sunday 26 January

Please pray that misunderstanding about the source of leprosy will become a thing of the past. Pray that Anju and other children like her will not have to grow up thinking they are cursed but will be able to have nutritious food and a healthy place to live. Give thanks that the activities of World Leprosy Day are contributing towards the knowledge of leprosy, dispelling fear and bringing truth to light.

Indonesia

Monday 27 January

Please pray that, for the new Indonesian government leprosy will become a government concern and priority will be given to leprosy control programmes. Pray that the Leprosy Control Programme will become integrated into the government's health services programme.

Tuesday 28 January

Please pray that policies and regulations will be passed to encourage village budgets to support leprosy control activities. Pray for a more comprehensive Leprosy Control Programme so that the management of leprosy will improve greatly and the level of disability will decrease.

Wednesday 29 January

Please pray that the intensive contact tracing and community engagement of the PEPCOM Project will continue to build. One aim is to provide clear data regarding the prevalence of leprosy in the communities of Indramayu. The long-term goal is to have no children with leprosy by 2035.

Thursday 30 January

One desired outcome of the PEPCOM project is to strengthen community involvement and empowerment. Please pray that there would be more

self-determination for individuals and families as they grow in confidence with the knowledge they gain.

Friday 31 January

Please pray that self-stigma among people affected by leprosy can be reduced by the dissemination of correct information about leprosy through the PEPCOM project. Give thanks for the support groups of people affected by leprosy, where people can find support and share their knowledge. Please pray that the groups will help reduce reactions due to stress and depression.