



PRAYER FOCUS:

Leprosy & disability

**FACT**

3 million people
suffer from leprosy-
related disabilities

Leprosy brings with it the potential for severe disability. When Ratni was 15, she had to have both her legs amputated due to severe complications of leprosy. Thankfully, TLM was able to help Ratni be fitted for prosthetic legs so that she would not have to be dependent on a tricycle to get around. TLM also helped Ratni apply for a government disability pension that she was not aware she was entitled to. Ratni's life has been very tough but she is incredibly grateful for the support she has received from TLM.

In this new-look issue of **PRAYERFUEL**, we want to ask you to join with us in praying for people like Ratni who have been disabled by leprosy.

Give thanks to God for:

- The recent disability forum in London and the collaboration between TLM and other disability and leprosy-focused organisations.
- The 496 people who received wheelchairs and other assisted support devices from TLM Nepal in 2017.
- Supporters who have responded to our recent shoe appeal, which will help protect the feet of hundreds of people (see page 4 of INTouch).
- TLM's physiotherapists, occupational therapists, surgeons and self-care group leaders who care for leprosy-affected people.

Please pray for:

- The many self-care groups in Nepal which provide leprosy-affected people with the tools to look after their insensitive hands and feet to prevent disabilities.
- TLM surgeons who carry out reconstructive surgery to restore movement and improve the quality of life for leprosy-affected people. Some 1,456 reconstructive surgeries were carried out in 2017.
- Elderly patients living in TLM care homes in India who often have very severe disabilities.
- TLM to be able to provide access to assistive devices, such as wheelchairs and crutches, for people living in remote areas where health care provision can be unreliable.
- More and more people to be diagnosed with leprosy in the early stages, before nerve damage takes hold.
- More leprosy-affected people to be able to access disability benefits and pensions through the efforts of TLM's advocacy teams.



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