Leprosy Mission Mission

Prayer Partner Devotional

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You are the heart of the mission!

## God is Watching Over You—Even When Life Turns Upside Down

"The Lord will keep you from all harm he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."

-Psalm 121:7-8

Have you ever experienced a moment when life suddenly shifted? When something unexpected—something frightening—changed everything?

I have. Years ago, I was prescribed new medication for a back problem. At the time, I had no idea I was allergic to one of the ingredients. It wasn't until things became dangerous—internal bleeding, weakness, and confusion—that I realised something was seriously wrong.

I remember being away from home, struggling to stay upright, feeling faint and sick. Somehow, I made it back to my family. My mum took one look at me and rushed me to the doctor. The next hours are a blur. But I know one thing: if help hadn't come quickly, I might not be here today.

That's why this passage from Psalm 121 speaks so deeply to me. It doesn't promise that life will be free from trouble. In fact, we know the opposite is often true. But it does promise that we are not alone. God is watching over us—in the hospital room, in the chaos, in the quiet recovery.

Sometimes, in the middle of fear or suffering, it's hard to believe anyone—let alone God—sees us.

But when we look back, we often find those quiet moments of grace:



a helping hand, a timely word, or the strength to carry on.

God watches over your life now and forevermore. That means your pain, your joy, your healing, your waiting—it all matters to Him. He's not only preparing you for eternal life. He's with you in this life too.

I thought of this recently when I learned about Mahesh, a bright and curious 9-year-old boy who lives in a rural village. He loves science and dreams of becoming a scientist. He's a huge fan of cricket—especially MS Dhoni. Like many kids, he's full of energy and wonder.

But when Mahesh fell ill with a mysterious fever, his family had no idea what was coming. Then his fingers began to curl. Then discoloured patches appeared on his skin. They were confused and scared. Eventually, blood tests revealed the diagnosis: leprosy.

It was a word they had never heard before. A disease they didn't understand. Suddenly, their world was upended.

Mahesh's mum, already raising three children alone, was heartbroken. She had been working hard every day at construction sites to earn just enough to send her children to school. But now, Mahesh couldn't even hold a pencil.

And when she told his father—who had abandoned the family years ago—his response only added to her pain. He claimed their son was cursed, that leprosy was the reason he left them.

It's the kind of heartbreak that makes you cry out: Where is God in all of this?

But the story doesn't end there.

Mahesh received the treatment he needed. He's now being supported through surgery to restore movement in his hand. He's back at school. And his dream of becoming a scientist? It's still alive.

Through the support of The Leprosy Mission, Mahesh received the treatment he needed. He's now being supported through surgery to restore movement in his hand. He's back at school. And his dream of becoming a scientist? It's still alive.

The Mission is also working with families like his to build inclusive, accepting communities—places where children affected by disability or disease aren't excluded, but empowered.

And you, through your prayers and support, are part of that story.

Your prayers help sustain this work. They bring strength to parents like Mahesh's mum. They carry the broken-hearted to God. They shine His light into places where shame and fear try to take hold.

Thank you—for seeing, for caring, for watching with God.

Yours in prayer,





Glen Coleman Community Engagement Coordinator Leprosy Mission Australia



## Will you pray with us?

We'd love to hear your prayers for people like Mahesh and for the work of The Leprosy Mission. You can email your prayer to **engage@leprosymission.org.au** or use the response form enclosed. We may even share it to encourage others in our Daily Prayer sheet.

## Would you like to do more?

Consider supporting the Cocreating Inclusive Development project. Your gift can help villages become disability-inclusive, and empower children like Mahesh to live full, hope-filled lives.



## https://www.leprosymission.org.au/projects/cid/ppd03

Because when you say yes, you become part of the answer to that ancient promise:

The Lord will watch over your life—both now and forevermore.