



**“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.**

**Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.**

**If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it.”**

## **1 Corinthians 12:4-6; 12-13; 26**

### **One feather.**

I was watching a talent show recently when one of the acts suddenly made me think of you. The performer held a long white feather in their hand. They reached down, picked up a dried palm branch—stripped of its leaves—and balanced the feather on the end of it. Then came an astonishing display of balance and precision. They bent down for another branch and balanced the first branch—and the feather—on top of it. Then another branch. And another. Soon, they were holding ten branches fanned out like a giant feather.

Finally, they took the last branch, placed it upright on the ground, and balanced the entire structure on top. Then, taking a deep breath, they stood back, reached up, and—without touching anything else—lifted off the feather.

The moment the feather was removed, everything collapsed. And immediately, my mind turned to you.

Somehow, that feather was holding the whole thing together. Without it, the branches were just a pile of dry sticks.



With it, the audience was captivated by something beautiful, delicate, and full of purpose.

In the same way, without you—your life changing prayers, your compassionate heart—The Leprosy Mission begins to falter. But with you, and with others like you across Australia, the Mission becomes whole, alive, and full of hope. You truly are the heart of this work.

Thank you for the encouragement you bring, for the inspiration you give, and for the way your prayers and actions keep this Mission beating with life. The image of the Body of Christ is essential for all of us who seek to restore dignity and healing to people affected by leprosy. And nowhere is that more evident than in the life of someone like Jagishur.

For more than twenty years, Jagishur has been making the long and difficult journey from his village near the Indian border, to Anandaban Hospital in Nepal. He first came because a friend named Kashi—also affected by leprosy—told him about the self care unit there. “Kashi taught me how to care for myself,” he says. “Those skills became essential in the years to come.”

Since that first visit, his life has fallen into a pattern of six months at home and six months in hospital. “It’s a cycle I cannot escape,” he admits. Diagnosed around thirty years ago, he still remembers being told he had leprosy after noticing only a small patch on his thigh. Treatment helped, but the damage was already done, leaving him with ulcers that flare up every time he goes home.

The heat, humidity, long walks, and constant flies make healing nearly impossible. Even the custom made shoes from Anandaban, though helpful, wear out too quickly. At home, he tries to keep up his self care, but it is difficult and lonely.

“I do not visit friends or relatives,” he says. “They discriminate against me.” Unable to work, he lives with his brother’s family, dependent on them for support.

Yet he always returns to Anandaban—the one place where he is welcomed, treated with dignity, and never turned away. Here, healing and hope begin again.

Thank you for being the feather.

Thank you for being the heart.

Thank you for embracing people like Jagishur into the Body of Christ—so that together, we might grasp the love of Jesus in its fullness.

Yours in Prayer,



**Glen Coleman**  
Community Engagement Coordinator  
Leprosy Mission Australia



#### **Will you pray with us?**

Thank God for the unique part He has called you to play in the Body of Christ as it is expressed through The Leprosy Mission. Pray that each of our parts will come together to create transformation, new life, and hearts open to the love of God.

Pray for people like Jagishur to have friends like Kashi—even when others abandon them.

Pray that everything that tears the Body apart, such as stigma and discrimination, will be replaced with inclusion, dignity, and hope.

Share your prayers for people like Jagishur and for all God is doing by emailing [engage@leprosymission.org.au](mailto:engage@leprosymission.org.au) or by using the enclosed form.

#### **Would you like to do more?**

The Self Care Unit at Anandaban Hospital is a lifeline for people like Jagishur—a place for healing, learning, acceptance, and love.

You can extend your life changing impact so that even more people can experience this care.

Simply follow the link or scan the QR code.

