

Q&A with Brent Morgan, The Leprosy Mission International Director

Question: Most people may know about leprosy being a disease of the bible or in ancient times portrayed in movies like Ben-Hur. But it's not around these days — is it?

Brent: Leprosy still exists. In fact, every two minutes one person is diagnosed with leprosy somewhere in the world.

Question: What causes leprosy?

Brent: Explains leprosy is caused by bacteria – like COVID-19 – and no vaccine currently available either. (aside: can talk about how COVID situation is/can affect people affected by leprosy). **But there is a cure** – Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) currently some of the drug used are being tested for use against COVID. Within 24-48 hours of starting treatment the patient is no longer infectious.

Question: How do you get it?

Brent: Explains

Question: So what is The Leprosy Mission?

Brent: Explains

The following two questions and answers are in the longer version of the interview.

Question: And what are you doing to defeat leprosy and transform lives?

Brent: Explains Triple Zero Strategy – expands particularly on NO CHILD WITH LEPROSY 2035 – and no child with leprosy disability.

Question: You've been with The Leprosy Mission for a while now, starting in New Zealand and now in the UK working globally. Is there a case of someone who you've met and helped you can tell us about?

Brent: Speaks about — “my personal experience with leprosy patients” — and how treatment and protective shoes make a difference in the life of someone like Nutan in India (result: walking comfortably, confidence and education).

Why do people affected by leprosy need protective shoes?

Brent: Explains

What difference do protective shoes make for a person affected by leprosy?

Brent: Explains

How can we gift the gift of protective shoes this Christmas?

Brent: Explains