

Mission



News

May 2015

Compiled by
Rosemary Croft

“

Therefore go and make
disciples of all nations

”

BMS World Mission - Transforming Lives

The Douglas Family send greetings from Kathmandu; they had a very blessed time at Easter, especially as Angus' parents were with them. Their Prayer for us here at WBC is that we knew God's special blessing too.

Helen says that spring is special for her this year, it's definitely her favourite season. As a teenager it was mournful autumn that she loved - falling leaves, death of summer and the rain - it went well with teenage angst! But now it's spring with the signs of hope, new life and growth after the cold barren winter; beautiful spring colours seem inextricably linked to Easter. Flowering of daffodils, crocuses, forsythia and tree blossoms were some of the things they consciously said goodbye to when they left the UK nearly 3 years ago, and indeed the first 2 springs there in Nepal they saw very little spring colour - remembering fondly the banks of daffodils they used to see back in Cardiff, they noticed only the dust, litter and pollution.



This year however, spring is different, wherever she looks there are flowers on the papaya and plum trees in the neighbours garden, jasmine climbing over the wall and even colour in the grassy bank by the taps! A cuckoo now heralds the sunrise each morning; has Kathmandu had a sudden horticultural change? She thinks not, the change has come in her, there is still litter, dog mess, pollution and the rest, but this year she has been able to see past that. God has opened her eyes to the subtle beauty that is all around if only she looks



Living in Nepal it is so easy to focus on the negative, to get discouraged by the bleak situation of so many they meet, corruption and inertia of those in authority, or by the oppression of the most vulnerable in society. But God is at work, bringing hope in and through individuals. They have been privileged to see and join in with some of it this spring: - Women rescued from an abusive past finding dignity and peace.

Homeless alcoholics having their feet washed, wounds dressed, and a hot meal.

The young local Church grappling with what it means to be true disciples of Jesus.

Young medical students getting passionate about offering compassionate care to dying patients and those with disability.

Children learning about God's faithfulness and promises to them.

New life, hope, fresh beginnings, this is the good news that Jesus brings and they are part of this, sharing Jesus there in Nepal. Please be much in Prayer for Helen, Angus, Caleb, Charis and Esther, that they will continue to know God's nearness and blessing.

Christian Aid



Please Pray for all those who volunteer to deliver and collect envelopes for Christian Aid; this year the date is 10 - 16 May. There will be a picture of Loko on each envelope, she lives on a knife edge in Ethiopia. If she misses a day's work her children could starve, so much support is needed.

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EARTHQUAKE

UPDATE



Nepal is looking different from Helen's thoughts on Spring after the two major earthquakes last weekend. Many homes and special buildings have been destroyed and many have been killed. Helen, Angus, Caleb, Charis and Esther are safe and well, for which we thank God. They have been sleeping outdoors at the KISC basketball court with 200 other people. Angus is coordinating the KISC response and providing for those who have sought shelter in KISC site.



When the earthquake hit, Helen was teaching the children in Nepali Church about Joseph and God's faithfulness and presence even in the darkest of times! They reminded them of that as the building swayed and pitched around them. God has been faithful and gracious even in this mess, it could have been so much worse.

They are seeking to help those around them and trying to be light and peace in a very scary situation. Please continue to Pray for the communities, those still trapped, the injured and that the aid arriving will reach those in most need.

You can donate to the relief work for Nepal via www.bmsworldmission.org or for the rural area of Helambu where Ben Laird was working, www.tinyurl.com/mnr98d8

