

JUNE - AUGUST 2019

Prayer Diary



the
overseas
disability
charity

cbm
together we can do more



JUNE

Back to nature



Dinesh Rana is a Senior Programme Officer working with CBM India for more than 10 years. He manages a green livelihoods programme in Northern India, especially including people with disabilities and vulnerable communities in organic farming. Crops are grown with organic composts, use of bio pest repellents and efficient use of water for irrigation.

Sun 2 Pray for good monsoons, as rain brings prosperity to farmers and good crop production to feed the communities and sustain the livelihoods of our marginal farmers.

Mon 3 Pray for people with disabilities and their family members who are involved in projects to produce crucial summer crops such as maize and soybean. Bless the seeds for fertility and good yield.

Tue 4 Pray for the farmers, people with disabilities and family members engaged in the preparation of organic inputs for organic farms. Bless the soil with healthy composition of micro and macro nutrients.

Wed 5 On World Environment Day we pray for a safe environment. Lord bless the community members with knowledge to treat land organically without harming nature or polluting the air with chemicals.

Front cover: Dibelayi's grandfather Fortunat sadly lost his sight due to a disease called River Blindness. Thanks to our preventative drug programme in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Dibelayi and his siblings are protected from the disease.

JUNE

Back to nature

Thu 6 Pray for the staff from CBM and our project partner who are engaged in training of farmers and people with disabilities on organic farming management and sustainable green livelihood.

Fri 7 Pray for Dr. Sara Varghese, Country Director India for guiding us on safeguarding the environment and promoting green livelihood opportunities. May Lord enlighten her with innovative ideas.

Sat 8 Pray for our project partners Naman Seva Samiti and PGSS for pioneering community organic farming for local farmers and people with disabilities.

Prayers provided by
Dinesh Rana

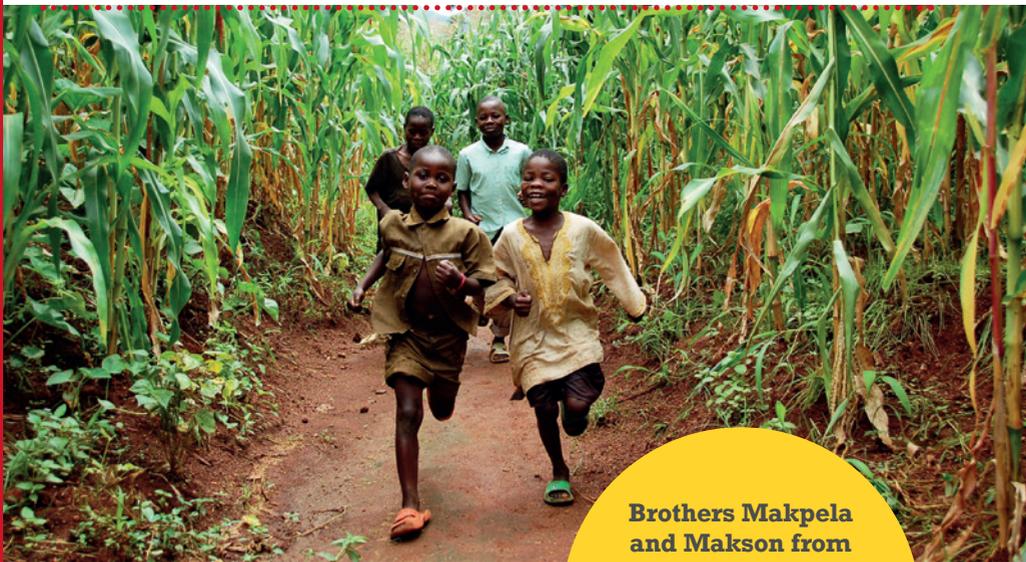
Kisanrao (pictured right, with his wife) is a survivor: when he was young he was attacked by both a buffalo and tiger, losing his leg. Supported by CBM's livelihood programme, he and his community have established a flour mill, enabling many to earn a living.



The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. **DEUTERONOMY 28:12**

JUNE

Prayers for Pentecost



Brothers Makpela and Makson from Cameroon, were both born with cataracts. Here, post-surgery, they are pictured running with friends.

Sun
9

At Pentecost, we think back to the roaring wind, and the flickering flames of the Holy Spirit experienced by Jesus's disciples. May your light empower us and give us strength to do good.

Mon
10

Lord, it has been a long time since the holy spirit came and sometimes the world can seem a dark place, but remind us that your light is always within us.

Tue
11

As the power of the holy spirit stirs within us, we ask you to re-ignite our hearts, passions and motivations, and to go about our work with renewed purpose.

JUNE

Prayers for Pentecost

Wed
12

We ask that the holy spirit fills our souls, and replaces the emptiness within us with fullness. Help us to be thankful for what we have.

Thu
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We ask that the holy spirit fills our hearts with love for our neighbour and for our family throughout the world. Teach us that no matter where people are from, we are all equal in your eyes.

Fri
14

We ask that the holy spirit fills our minds, and helps us to be calm at times of stress. We ask you to bless CBM staff members and beneficiaries alike, as we face challenges in every day life.

Sat
15

We ask that the holy spirit fills our bodies, giving us good health. Lord, help us to help people who face illness, or live with impairment to overcome challenges so they can achieve their potential.



Kibret, from Ethiopia could no longer read the bible because of trachoma. Now, following CBM-funded surgery he can read again.

Prayers provided by Grace Harper, Senior Officer, CBM UK

"I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken." **ACTS 2:25**

JUNE

Thanks for fathers
and male role models

Desiré hugs his sons on his arrival home from successful cataract surgery.

Sun 16 On this Father's Day, we thank you Lord, for being the perfect Father. We pray for your blessing on all fathers and we ask for forgiveness on those fathers who have done wrong to their families.

Mon 17 Today Lord, we ask that you will intervene in the lives of those fathers who, for whatever reason, struggle to be a good role model. Give them a chance to absolve and redeem themselves.

Tue 18 This week may we reflect on the many sacrifices fathers make for their children and families, especially those who find themselves caught in a cycle of poverty and disability.

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress. **JAMES 1:27**

JUNE

Thanks for fathers
and male role models

Wed 19 Almighty God we thank you for Desiré, a devoted father of four living in Cameroon. Thank you for the cataract surgery he received last September, enabling him to see his family after 28 years.

Thu 20 Lord we give thanks for fathers who go above and beyond for their children. Thank you especially for fathers of children with disabilities who fight to make sure they have the best possible lives.

Fri 21 We pray for fathers living in countries where there is stigma associated with disability. Increase their courage, cement their love and demonstrate their pride to help eradicate discrimination.

Sat 22 Ramadhani from Tanzania was so relieved when his son Hemedi received free cataract surgery. "I wish that Hemedi has a better life than me one day," he said. We give thanks for devoted fathers.

3-year-old Hemedi is comforted by his father just after cataract surgery at our partner hospital in Tanzania, East Africa.



Prayers provided by Dave Taylor, Head of Partnerships, CBM UK

JUNE

Reflections on
the Rohingya crisis

Sun
23

In the days following World Refugee Day, we pray for your hand of protection over the Rohingya people during this monsoon season, as last year's monsoons destroyed parts of the refugee camps.

Mon
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The poverty rates in areas surrounding the Rohingya camps are some of the highest in Bangladesh. Lord, we pray for the work which is being done in the host communities to improve people's livelihoods.



Emma Pettey is a Project Officer for CBM's Emergency Response Unit. In Bangladesh, she has actively involved people with disabilities in the Rohingya camps in developing and receiving the help they need.

Emma navigates the Balukhali camp during a project monitoring visit.

You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.
ISIAH 25:4

Tue
25

Access to relief remains a challenge for many people with disabilities in the Rohingya camps. Father we ask that you guide our work with other humanitarian organisations to improve access to services.

Wed
26

God, we pray for our home-based rehabilitation teams, who spend hours each day on foot, to reach those living deep in the Rohingya camps and host communities. We pray you give them strength.

JUNE

Reflections on
the Rohingya crisis

Clients brave the monsoon rains to attend our mobile health clinic in the host community near the refugee camps.



Thu
27

Sometimes when emergencies hit on the magnitude of the Rohingya refugee crisis, it's hard to know how to pray. Father, we pray that you work to bring peace into the darkest situations.

Fri
28

A refugee camp can be a scary place for women and girls, especially at night when there is no light. We pray for all the Rohingya women and girls, and that you would keep them safe.

Sat
29

Father, we thank you for our teams in Cox's Bazar who show great commitment and compassion in their work. We pray that you give them wisdom and guidance as they make decisions in situations of scarce resources.

Prayers provided by Emma Pettey

JUNE/ JULY

Focus on East Africa

Marie from Rwanda relies on crops for her food source and livelihood, but farming has become challenging since she lost her sight to cataracts. She faced the difficult dilemma of trying to farm her land while blind, or missing some of the planting season while she travelled to hospital for eye surgery.



Sun 30 Few of us will have to make the choice between eating and having an eye operation. Father we pray for people in the world's poorest places, like Marie, who have faced very difficult decisions.

Mon 1 Marie's journey to Kabgayi Eye Hospital was three hours long on bumpy roads. We pray that eye services will become more accessible in Rwanda thanks to our new programme starting this summer.

Tue 2 We give thanks for loyal friends like Philomena who accompanied Marie to the hospital for her treatment and back home again to plant as much as they can.

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. **PSALM 119:105**

JULY

Focus on East Africa

Wed 3 We thank you for the huge number of volunteer health workers that travel from village to village identifying people like Marie who need our help. We pray for their wisdom and support.

Thu 4 We pray for all people living in poverty with disability, as they face dilemmas. When people have so little, they have to weigh up what they would lose in order to afford transport and treatment.

Fri 5 We give thanks to everyone who supported CBM's See the Way appeal back in spring. The appeal will fund our fantastic new programme in Rwanda, improving access to comprehensive eye health services.

Sat 6 Lord we pray for our wonderful supporters, volunteers and churches who are preparing for Christian Blind Mission Sunday in October. We hope they are successful in raising awareness and funds for people in the world's poorest places who struggle to see.

You can request free resources for your church to mark Christian Blind Mission Sunday in October. Call 0800 567 7000 or email community@cbmuk.org.uk



Prayers provided by David Rootham, Senior Legacy Officer, CBM UK

JULY

Facing difficult decisions

Sun
7

We pray for the CBM community, particularly the community in East Africa. As we begin a new financial year, may we be guided by Your grace and wisdom, and that our work may always be fruitful.

Mon
8

We pray for people with disabilities that are also suffering from cancer. Gracious God, grant them strength. Lord we give thanks for people working towards cancer prevention, detection, and treatment.

Tue
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We pray for all women with disabilities, particularly in low-resource settings like East Africa. I pray that achievements of women with disabilities should be also brought to the fore and celebrated.



Jeanne lost her right leg from a landmine during the Rwandan genocide. For years, she had to beg to survive but CBM's Village Savings and Loans programme has helped her start a tomato business.

He will not forget the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. **HEBREWS 6:10**

JULY

Facing difficult decisions



Albert Kombo is the Regional Hub Director for CBM East Africa and is based in Nairobi, Kenya. In this region, CBM works with over 60 partners and uses Disability Inclusive Development principles to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities.

Wed
10

As Rwanda marks 25 years since the end of the genocide, we pray for all people who were injured, impaired and traumatised as a result of atrocities. Lord, lay your blessing on Rwanda and ensure continued peace.

Fri
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With recognition that almost 700 million people are now over the age of 60, we pray for increased attention to the needs and challenges faced by older people, and in particular those with disabilities.

Thu
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Lord we pray for CBM and all our partners to be more conscious of the value of working towards environmental sustainability. We ask for strength to take action for the protection of our environment.

Sat
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As South Sudan marks its Independence Day on July 9th, we pray for prevailing peace so that people with disabilities can continue accessing the services they need, provided by CBM and our partners.

Prayers provided by Albert Kombo

JULY

Prayers from Papua New Guinea



Parents waiting with their children who are undergoing treatment for clubfoot, at CBM partner Callan Services for Disabled Persons.

Sun 14 Lord we pray for your mercy and protection over all CBM staff who travel to remote areas. Pray for the East Asia Auditor as she conducts the annual field audit across Papua New Guinea.

Mon 15 Pray for the monitoring and mentoring visits by the CBM team to different Inclusive Education Resource Centres. We ask you Lord to guide them on how best they can support the Education Officers.

Tue 16 God we pray for the success of surgical cataract outreach trips to Mingende and other rural places where eye care services or eye specialists are not available.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. **DEUTERONOMY 31:6**

JULY

Prayers from Papua New Guinea

Wed 17 Father we pray for the leadership and staff at CBM Papua New Guinea as they prepare project reports, review ongoing work and plan activities for this new financial year.

Thu 18 Please pray for CBM Ophthalmologist Dr Geoffrey Wabulembo and the post graduate ophthalmology training programme in East Asia, that it may continue to progress and attract bright new students.

Fri 19 We remember in our prayers children with disabilities in the early intervention programme, students with special needs in mainstream classes and those in the Community-based Rehabilitation programme.

Sat 20 Lord, may we experience your peace amidst a busy schedule and sometimes difficult environment. We pray for wisdom and discernment to do the best we can for people with disabilities.



Since 2016, Diana Ureta has worked as CBM's country co-ordinator for Papua New Guinea, East Asia. She previously worked as a CBM programme manager in Manila, The Phillippines.

Prayers provided by Diana Ureta

JULY

Prayers from India

Sun
21

We pray that the good work being carried-out by CBM's team all over the world is always effective and efficient in reducing poverty and vulnerability of all, especially of those with disabilities.

Mon
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We pray for all the friends, well-wishers and collaborators of CBM that they be blessed and inspired to join hands in improving the quality of life of people with disabilities all over the world.

Tue
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We pray for all those who feel alone, isolated and depressed in life, especially those with disabilities. May God bless them and fill their life with hope, fulfilment and happiness.

Wed
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We pray that the Lord may bless those involved in bringing deep and sustainable changes in the life of excluded and marginalised sections in society especially those with disabilities.

Father Thomas Varghese is a Priest and the Director of the Social Service Department of the Catholic Diocese of Gorakhpur, India. CBM works in partnership with the organisation, to reach out to people with disabilities through community based inclusive development.



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **ROMANS 15:13**

JULY

Prayers from India

Thu
25

We pray for all victims of natural disasters, especially those affected last year by the devastating floods in Kerala, southern India. May the generous support offered for rehabilitation be effective.

Fri
26

We pray for all partner organisations of CBM who work tirelessly to break the cycle of poverty and disability. May they be successful in increasing livelihood opportunities and economic independence.

Sat
27

We pray that peace and prosperity may prevail across the world and that all acts of violence and terrorism may stop. May this world become the real abode of love and brotherhood for all human beings.



Our partner hospital in the Gorakhpur region of India ensures people receive the eye health services they need



Prayers provided by Father Varghese

JULY

Celebrating shared humanity

Sun 28 Lord, in the week of International Day of Friendship, help us to focus on what unites us rather than divides us. May we celebrate similarities across the world rather than differences.

Mon 29 As the world faces many challenges such as poverty, discrimination and violence, we ask for strength, Lord. Help us to build harmony and understanding among the world's people.

Tue 30 God we thank you for the gift of friendship. At CBM we value the connections and friendships we have made across the globe. Our shared passion to challenge injustice promotes a great sense of unity.

Wed 31 Jesus said, "Love thy neighbour as yourself". Lord, may we take example from the parable of the Good Samaritan, and always strive to demonstrate compassion and tolerance.



Neighbours Ruvimbo (3) and Destiny (10) from Zimbabwe are best friends. Destiny lost her leg in a traffic accident and Ruvi has poor vision due to cataracts. They are patient and understanding with each other.

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity. **PROVERBS 17:17**

AUGUST

Celebrating shared humanity

The International Day of Friendship was established in 2011 by the UN with the idea that friendship between different people, countries and cultures can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities.



Omari met and became friends with Heri at our partner hospital where they had cataract surgery at the same time.



Thu 1 Diversity in culture, language, religion and race is what makes humanity amazing. But in our hearts, we are all the same. Lord, help us to understand we are part of a global family.

Fri 2 At CBM, I see amazing examples of friendship. Lord, thank you for friends, carers, colleagues, and sometimes strangers, who demonstrate invaluable kindness, love and support.

Sat 3 We give thanks for our community-based self-help programmes. Wonderful bonds are created at these self-help groups, as people find compassion and mutual support from their similar situations.

Prayers provided by Kirsty Smith, Chief Executive of CBM UK

AUGUST

Prayers for Ethiopia



Francesco Giulietti, has worked for CBM since 2015. He began his career as International Aid Worker in 1997 in Tanzania and has since lived in many countries including Zimbabwe, Eritrea, Israel and Ethiopia. He is passionate about CBM's work since it focusses on the most vulnerable and often disadvantaged people.

Sun
4 Heavenly Father, we pray for peace. In Ethiopia, poverty combined with social exclusion can generate civil unrest. Help us to demonstrate love towards others and to stand as champions of peace.

Mon
5 Heavenly Father, we pray for justice. In Ethiopia many live below the poverty line and people with disability are often marginalised. Almighty God, help us to promote equality throughout society.

Tue
6 Heavenly Father, we pray for children. Help us to support children and youth, providing them with opportunities for growth in a peaceful and stable environment, surrounded by care and love.

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. **PROVERBS 31:8**

AUGUST

Prayers for Ethiopia

Wed
7 Heavenly Father, we pray for institutions. We pray particularly for Ethiopia. Almighty God, help the Ethiopian government to achieve their best with honesty and fairness.

Thu
8 Heavenly Father, we pray for tolerance. Almighty God, help us to improve our tolerance and our effort to establish mutual exchange with our brothers and sisters from all over the world.

Fri
9 Heavenly Father, we pray for the elimination of hunger, particularly in Ethiopia where over 10% of the population have food shortages, due to recurrent droughts, political instability and lack of resources.

Sat
10 Heavenly Father, we pray for the elimination of blinding trachoma, endemic in 80% of districts in Ethiopia. Almighty God, help us to eliminate Trachoma through the commitment of local CBM partners.



Prayers provided by Francesco Giulietti

AUGUST

A second chance at school



Classmates Ruvarashe, Shigo and Delight at CBM-supported Kadoma school for blind children.

Sun 11 Lord, we are so grateful for our 5 year programme supporting girls' education in Zimbabwe. We ask for a strong and cooperative partnership between CBM and all partners involved.

Tue 13 Despite challenges towards the beginning of the programme, it is still on schedule. Father, we thank you for the perseverance of our staff and partners working to make it a success.

Mon 12 Our programme faced challenges due to political unrest and fuel shortages in Zimbabwe. We ask for perseverance for those working during difficult times.

CBM is proud to be a partner in our fantastic new programme called Supporting Adolescent Girls' Education. Over five years, across 11 districts of Zimbabwe the programme aims to help 21,000 girls to go to school.



Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life. **PROVERBS 4:13**

AUGUST

A second chance at school

Wed 14 We give thanks for everyone involved in the design of this comprehensive programme which enables marginalised girls to gain an education and then transition to training or employment.

Fri 16 We pray for the teachers who will be delivering accessible education to these adolescent girls. May you give them wisdom and guidance, particularly when working with girls with disabilities.

Thu 15 Lord we ask you to bless the outreach workers who are identifying marginalised girls who missed out on education. We ask that you give them patience, perseverance, empathy and passion.

Sat 17 Lord we ask you to lay your blessing on each marginalised girl and young woman in Zimbabwe who has missed out on education. With your love and guidance, we hope to give them a bright future.

Our girls education programme will help children like Tawa, who was diagnosed with bilateral cataracts and struggled at school.



Prayers provided by Grace Harper

AUGUST

Leaving no one behind

Sun
18

Lord, when disaster strikes, we ask you to be at the sides of those affected, but in particular those with disabilities who may find it particularly challenging to escape dangerous crisis situations.

Mon
19

In the immediate aftermath of crises - from natural disasters, to war, many people need urgent life-saving medical intervention. Lord, give us the capacity and resources to deliver the care needed.

Tue
20

Lord, allow us to help break down the barriers that people with disabilities often face to receiving vital supplies, food and medical care in crisis situations.

CBM Emergency Response Unit prepares for and responds to disaster situations, from immediate food and medical needs to longer-term interventions in fields such as livelihood and reconstruction.



Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. **JOHN 15:13**

AUGUST

Leaving no one behind

Wed
21

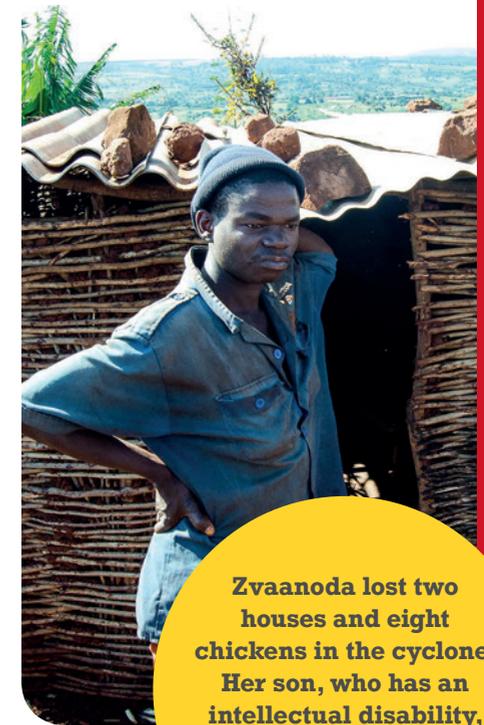
Dear God we give thanks to you for all the people involved in developing the Humanitarian Hands-On Tool, which is helping transform the way front line workers deliver disability-inclusive aid.

Thu
22

Lord, please grant patience and empathy to those delivering humanitarian aid. We ask that the voices of those with disabilities are heard and they get a say in the support being provided to them.

Fri
23

Dear God at times of crisis, we ask for collaboration. Help humanitarian workers and agencies to work together to ensure the most efficient response.



Zvaanoda lost two houses and eight chickens in the cyclone. Her son, who has an intellectual disability, now has to sleep in the converted chicken shed.

Sat
24

Father, thank you for the fantastic people we work within the CBM Emergency Response Unit and at our partner organisations on the front line. We ask that you keep them safe.

Prayers provided by CBM's Emergency Response Unit

AUGUST

Working towards a more equal world



Our village savings and loans project in Zambia helps people to break the cycle of poverty and disability, by lending them money to start businesses.



Sun 25 Thank you Lord for the chance to rest each week. May those in power and authority have rest today so they can make wise decisions in the coming week, that will further justice and equality for all.

Mon 26 Thank you for giving every person value. Whether we are male, female, young, old, rich or poor, we are all equal in your eyes. We thank you Lord for accepting us as we are.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful. **PSALM 139:14**

AUGUST

Working towards a more equal world

Tue 27 Bless CBM's work with the Girls Education Challenge. Only a third of girls with disabilities complete primary school in poorer countries - we ask this work will remove barriers to girls' education.

Wed 28 We pray for women with disabilities at risk of poverty where discrimination excludes them from work. Bless CBM's income generation programmes as they challenge inequality and empower women to earn.

Thu 29 Thank you Lord for relationships, children and family life. We pray for women who experience maternal mental health problems; and for those rejected by family because of disability.

Fri 30 We pray that older women will not be forgotten or excluded. We pray for ongoing fruit from the ADCAP project, which trained people to include older and disabled people during humanitarian responses.

Sat 31 Lord, may we also know how to plant the seeds of truth, justice and equality so that we can help create a world where people are not discriminated against because of disability or gender.

We work with the Disability Rights Advocacy Centre in Nigeria to tackle violence against women and girls with disabilities.

Prayers provided by Rachel Aston, Policy Manager, CBM UK





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Join with your church to mark Christian Blind Mission Sunday 2019

This Harvest, learn how we can provide for the world's forgotten people, to help them prosper and grow. We have a range of resources for you to use, so your church can learn about people living with disability in the world's poorest places. Through prayer and gifts, we can help to break the cycle of poverty and disability.

To register for Christian Blind Mission 2019 email community@cbmuk.org.uk or call us on **0800 567 7000**.

With grateful thanks to the friends of CBM who have provided prayers for this diary including: Dinesh Rana, David Taylor, David Rootham, Emma Pettey, Albert Kombo, Diana Ureta, Father Varghese, Kirsty Smith, Francesco Giulietti, and Rachel Aston.

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CBM reaches out to people who others leave behind, transforming the lives of people with blindness and other disabilities in the poorest places of the world.

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