

# MYANMAR'S LEPROSY COMMUNITIES

In the U.S., leprosy sounds medieval. But it's a present reality in Myanmar, marking new lives every year with illness and isolation. Late diagnosis is common, clinics are distant, war and poverty close doors, and stigma closes hearts.

Jesus moved toward people whom everyone else avoided. We offer practical help, trauma-informed care, and a steady presence, acting as a living witness that every person is seen and loved by God.

# LOVE FOR MYANMAR'S PARTNERSHIP

Since 2014, Love for Myanmar has provided humanitarian aid, spiritual care, and education for leprosy patients, their families, and staff. The reality:

- Stigma isolates more than symptoms. Many are forced from home and denied work or school.
- Care is thin. Distance, conflict, and poverty delay diagnosis and interrupt treatment.
- Children bear the cost. Most don't have leprosy,
   but they unfortunately carry the (unnecessary and unfortunate) shame of association.

# WHAT IS LEPROSY?

Also known as Hansen's disease, leprosy is a chronic infection of the skin and peripheral nerves. While it's treatable and uncommon in most regions of the world, in 2020, Myanmar was one of 23 countries responsible for 95% of global leprosy infections.



THE LIGHT
SHINES IN THE
DARKNESS, AND
THE DARKNESS
HAS NOT
OVERCOME IT.

John 1:5

### LIFE ON THE EDGES AND THE **GOD WHO SEES**

Leprosy in Myanmar is socially devastating. Many arrive after long, fearful journeys, rejected by neighbors. Nearby "leprosy villages" have become communities of resilience pieced together by the excluded.

#### YOUR PARTNERSHIP MAKES POSSIBLE:

- Daily provision for patients and 100+ families.
- Consistent chaplain presence. Scripture, prayer, practical love.
- A path for kids: tutoring, basics, and hope beyond stigma.
- Trauma-wise care: trained teams who listen and guide healing.
- Witness at work: hospital staff devotions; many now follow Christ.

A pastor-led board stewards the Mawlamyine hospital. In Myanmar's crisis economy, keeping the doors open means access to monthly faith. Your generosity sustains care for those few others will touch.

We say "people affected by leprosy" — identity is more than diagnosis. We don't claim cures, but we stand with patients and families in tangible. Christ-centered care.



### **HOW CHURCHES &** FRIENDS CAN HELP

- Adopt the ward in prayer (monthly focus)
- 2 Champion a lane: chaplaincy, family support, tutoring, or trauma healing.
- 3 Invite a conversation with your philanthropy, missions, or development team.



**GET INVOLVED WITH OUR** MINISTRY AND MAKE AN IMPACT TODAY.

HELP A FAMILY HOLD ON.



loveformyanmar.org