



to give light to those who sit in darkness

Daylight Newsletter March 2024

Having begun to produce regular written studies as a support for prisoners during pandemic restrictions, we are thankful that demand for these continues, and that they are still being widely distributed and read by many in our nation's prisons.

It was particularly encouraging recently to receive a message from a prison chaplain who emailed to thank us before her retirement. She writes, *"Thank you so much for sending these Bible study notes to me. I have found them invaluable, and I know that the lads have very much appreciated them... Many thanks again and may the Lord continue to bless your work"*.

Speaking to one of our own chaplains this week, he was sharing how he spends time giving out the studies on the wings week by week. He commented on how this not only means he is able to leave the men with the studies to read, but also gives him good opportunities to chat to and get to know individual prisoners.

It was also good to receive a letter from one prisoner, Andy, a few weeks ago, in which he had enclosed a well-worn copy of one of our studies from a previous series on the life of Moses.

Looking at Exodus 3:1-4:17 and Moses at the Burning Bush, the study pointed to God as a constant guardian, and Andy had highlighted a couple of sections he found particularly helpful, telling us how applicable it was for those in prison.

Having come along to our services in his first prison, Andy has stayed in touch throughout his sentence, and with the encouragement of one of our letter writing volunteers, has begun to pray regularly. He had picked up a mix of teachings from various religions in the past, but has been keen to learn more from the Bible during his time in prison. We pray that what he has heard at services and read in these regular studies will stay with him as he leaves prison this month, and that it will be possible for us to put him in touch with a local fellowship who will be able to provide him with ongoing spiritual support.





March Prayer Points

20th Anniversary Gift Boxes –

Please continue to pray for us as we put together these gift boxes with resources for each prison in the UK, that all the practical things that need to be done with printing, packing, and posting over the next couple of months will go smoothly, and that these will be a blessing to each of the chaplaincy teams that receive them.

We are very grateful for the kind gifts we have already received towards the boxes, and if you or your church would like to sponsor a box (approximate cost £50), please get in touch.

Christianity Explored – Please continue to pray for a possible opening to run *Christianity Explored Prison Edition* in a prison in the northeast, and that a recent visit by a volunteer to the prison will help in beginning to build links with the chaplaincy team there.

David – Please continue to pray for David who had contact with one of our chaplains during his time in prison and was discharged to the care of a psychiatric hospital earlier this year. He appreciates continued contact by

letter, and has also started looking at an *Emmaus Bible School* course that was given to him during his time in prison. Please pray that this contact will continue to be an encouragement to him, and that the Bible study course will be used to speak to him.

Lang – Please pray for Lang, a prisoner who struggles with serious self-harm issues. He has begun to attend services regularly, so please pray that the messages he hears and the conversations he has with our team will be used to speak to him, and that the Lord will draw Lang to Himself. Pray too for the nurses and medical teams in the prison as they seek to support him.

HMP New Hall (West Yorkshire) – Praise God that sixteen women came along to the last Bible study here, the largest number of attendees to date. Please pray that this good attendance will continue.

Preaching in Prisons – A recent conversation with one Managing Chaplain has caused us to consider what we might be able to do to help encourage and enable those

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preaching in prison to deliver sermons that are particularly relevant to prisoners lives and circumstances. First of all, please pray for all those who preach in prisons week by week, but then, remembering the priority that Scripture gives to preaching (Romans 10:14ff), please also pray that we might know God's guidance in what, if anything, we can do to better equip prison preachers.

Rob – Please continue to pray for Rob who has been coming along to weekly services in one prison. Court delays mean that he has already spent a long time waiting for his hearing, something he is finding very frustrating, and the date has recently been put back again, so please pray that he will be given patience, and that the Lord will speak to him in this time of waiting.

Ruth – Please pray for Ruth, who was released at the end of last year, but is now back in prison again. We thank God that she came back to our Bible study group and felt able to talk to one of our team about the matters that had brought about her return. Please pray that she will come to trust in Christ as her Saviour.

Sarah – Please pray for Sarah, a prisoner who has been attending Bible studies regularly, but is now being released. She has a place of worship to attend, but is feeling very nervous about starting a new life outside, so please pray that God will give her strength and confidence, not only to cope, but to continue to grow in grace.

T – Please continue to pray for T, a Christian prisoner on an IPP (Imprisonment for Public Protection) sentence. Having faced a number of setbacks with moving towards release, he is now waiting to be moved back to an open prison, so please pray that this will go smoothly for him, and that he will be helped to keep trusting the Lord as he waits.

Trustees – Please pray for our board of trustees as they meet this month, that they will be given wisdom in their discussions and decisions.

We are currently in need of more trustees, so please also pray that the Lord will raise up others to join the board. If this would be something you or someone you know would be interested in, then please get in touch with our office for further information.

HMP Wakefield (West Yorkshire)

– Give thanks that the Managing Chaplain has asked for our team to be more involved in the weekly meetings and monthly Free Church Sunday Services. The way God has opened more and more doors for the team here is a great blessing, and we thank Him for it.

During a recent session, one of the team was also able to share some information about Daylight with the Archbishop of York who was visiting the prison. His response was very positive, saying that he believed prison ministry was necessary as God's Word clearly says it is.





News from the Office: Gospel Partnerships

I am so glad that we are not the only people involved in gospel ministry! I am reminded of the end of many of Paul's letters where he lists those who partner with him. Verses like 1 Corinthians 16:15ff *"...the first fruits of the gospel in Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry... they refreshed my spirit and yours."* Paul appears to have kept Tychicus very busy and I've always been happy to read Romans 16:23!! However the most telling is the four references about Mark, especially in the context of the disagreement recorded in Acts 15. He is a son to Peter and becomes a co-worker with Paul, *"useful to [him] for ministry"*.

In preparing to celebrate our 20th Anniversary we have begun to enter into partnership with a variety of Christian people and groups, and one of those is the *Good News Broadcasting Association*. It is their 70th Anniversary this year and they called us looking to see if we could collaborate on a new project. A few months, lots of prayer and a number of conversations later we are trialling a *Daylight Prison Ministry Podcast*. Our goal is to share the joy of ministry inside prison with the wider church outside, helping you to give the glory to God and by His grace inspiring a new generation of workers. Please pray for us as

we develop this idea and work out who will host and be interviewed and what it might be called! And please check out [GNBA at gnba.net](http://gnba.net) and pray for them. Here are a few sentences about them from Tom, their CEO...

We have been teaching the Bible through media for 70 years. Primarily this has been through radio but more recently we have been producing videos and podcasts as well. Our roots actually go all the way back to 1939 when Back To the Bible was started in Lincoln, Nebraska. By 1954 they were ready to set up an office in England and Back To The Bible UK was born! In the 1970's we became an autonomous ministry and took on the name Good News Broadcasting Association. Over the decades we have produced thousands of hours of radio content which has been broadcast on Christian and secular radio stations across the UK, Africa, Indonesia, and the Philippines. We seek to encourage and equip believers in the faith and reach lost people with the gospel and we believe media is a great tool to do this. I am really excited to partner with Gaius and Daylight CPT in this significant year for both ministries and I believe God is going to use this podcast in amazing ways for His glory!

If you would like to support Daylight's work financially, one-off or regular gifts can be made via the 'Donate' tab on our website daylightcpt.org, or call 01245 252735 to make gifts by phone. Cheques made payable to Daylight Christian Prison Trust can be sent to our office address below, and if you would like a Gift Aid or Standing Order Form, please let us know.

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