



Daylight

CHRISTIAN PRISON TRUST



Daylight Newsletter May 2026

As part of their work, Daylight Chaplains carry out what are known as Statutory Duties. These include reception interviews for new prisoners, visiting prisoners in segregation or healthcare, and seeing those who have been identified as being at risk of self-harm.

While Statutory Duties can be seen as carrying out formal tasks with little chance of spiritual opportunity, our chaplains often find that this is a wrong view. One of our chaplains reports: "I was visiting a prisoner this past month who was about to be discharged. I had not had any contact with this young man until this point, but in going through the process of discharge with him, suddenly through the gloom of this badly lit cell, I spotted an open Bible on his desk. "Do you read this?" I asked. "Daily" replied

the prisoner. And so an interesting and worthwhile conversation ensued. There is much more going on behind closed doors than we often realise. Pray on!"

Please continue to pray for our chaplains as they carry out these duties, that they will continue to be given good opportunities to speak about spiritual things, and that these conversations will be used in the hearts and lives of many prisoners.

Our chaplains also have opportunities to give out study material and to follow up with the prisoners who have received it, which often leads to encouraging conversations.

One of our chaplains recently went to see D who was reading some new Bible Study notes. He reports, "With much discussion in our churches about the genre of hymns we sing (Daylight readers doubtless have a variety of views!), here was a young man with no church background, who had for the first time come across *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken* in his notes.

The words of that fourth verse by Newton, "*Saviour since of Zion's city...*" had gripped him with a passion that we rarely find outside. Amazing and deeply moving".

Please pray that these study notes will continue to be a blessing to D and that many prisoners will be encouraged as they use such notes for times of personal study in their cells.



May Prayer Points



Austin – Give thanks for Austin who enjoys hearing from one of our Letter Writing Volunteers. Our volunteer recently told Austin about Corrie Ten Boom's book *The Hiding Place* and we were able to arrange for a copy to be sent to him. In his latest letter, Austin said he had already read the book twice and had really enjoyed it. Please pray that the story of Corrie's faith in her Saviour through the hardest of circumstances will be used to speak to him and that he will continue to be blessed by contact with our volunteer.

HMP Deerbolt (County Durham) – Give thanks for encouragements with the Bible Study group here. One lad who came along not knowing how to navigate chapters and verses in his Bible is really growing in his understanding, and it was lovely to hear him pray for his fellow prisoners, that they would come to know why Jesus died on the cross.

HMP Five Wells (Northamptonshire) – Give thanks that as part of the Alpha course currently being run in the prison, there was recently a visit from Gram Seed who shared his testimony and gave out copies of his book to both prisoners and staff.

Give thanks too for continued opportunities to run a Faith Circle group with some of the older men in the prison. Two of the regular attenders were recently released, but the remaining men have invited others along to take their place.

HMP Hollesley Bay (Suffolk) – We have moved on with our weekly Bible Study to look at Jonah, and instantly, it is again encouraging. Three had brought their own study Bibles and were using them in a helpful way, demonstrating that they have grasped what is "below the line" and what is Scripture. Despite our years of experience, perhaps for some of our chaplains in many years of pastoral teaching ministry, it is a delight to find prisoners encouraging our own souls when identifying themes of "sacrifice" and rightly seeing Christ in familiar Old Testament text. Wonderful!

One of the regular study group attenders, F, left this past month and spoke of a church he would be attending. Please pray for prisoners as they make this massive transition to life outside. There is plenty of scope for things to go awry and much prayer is needed.

Josh – Give thanks for Josh who is enjoying our current series of Written Studies in the book of Mark. When the prison was locked down for a day recently, he told us that he had devoted the whole day to reading Mark's Gospel, so please pray that this will be used in his heart and life.

HMP Leeds (W. Yorkshire) – Please pray that suitable rooms will again be found for the Bible Studies to take place and that regulars, as well as new people will come along.

Max – Give thanks for Max who has recently begun to use our Letter Writing Ministry.



He has been in prison for a few years and does not have much contact with the outside world so is really appreciating contact with one of our volunteers, saying, *"Having someone to write to means more than you can possibly ever realise"*.

HMP New Hall (W. Yorkshire) – Give thanks that the clearance for the new Church of England chaplain has finally come through and she will be joining the chaplaincy team here in the very near future. Please pray that our monthly Bible Studies will be able to recommence as soon as she has settled in.

HMP Oakwood (West Midlands) – Give thanks for an encouraging Easter Sunday service here. There were no empty seats in the chapel which holds over a hundred. Please pray that the message of the risen Christ will be used to speak to them.

Give thanks too for a good group of men at the weekly Bible Studies. We have just come to the end of Hebrews which went well and the men have asked to move onto John's Gospel and are eager to begin.

Reuben – Please pray for Reuben who was asking whether he needed to go through a priest to confess his sins. Our chaplain spent some time looking at 1 John with him, and Reuben responded, *"Oh, so I can go straight to God through Jesus"*. Please pray that the Lord will continue to work in his heart and life.

HMP Wakefield (W. Yorkshire) – Praise God that Sunday Services are now taking place here once again. Please pray for those from our team who go in each week to provide support and pray that these services will keep running regularly.

HMP Warren Hill (Suffolk) – Give thanks for continued opportunities to run weekly

Bible Studies here. Following Easter, these have turned to Acts, and with the level of discussion, excellent in every way, this could be a long study! One prisoner, C, asked our chaplain for further proof texts that Christ is truly God, and when asked why, it transpired that he is in regular discussion with someone on his wing. Such discussions, witnessing, evangelising even, are going on through the long hours inside prison when there is not a chaplain in sight. A great reminder of the Holy Spirit's clear, continuing work.

HMP Wayland (Norfolk) – Please pray for C, a Christian man who was recently moved to an open prison but found the temptations too strong and has now been moved back to closed conditions.

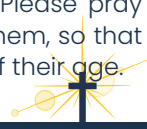
Please also continue to pray for N, a Hindu prisoner with lots of questions who is in regular conversation with a Christian friend in a neighbouring cell.

Pray too about vacant positions here, with openings for both a Managing Chaplain and an Anglian Chaplain.

HMP Wealstun (W. Yorkshire) – Please pray that the nine men who have signed up to attend the Bible Study 'Cover Up', will come to know and love our risen Saviour.

Please also pray for two men, David and Tony, who have attended *Hope Explored* courses in the past and are now due for release. They both know of churches they can attend in the areas they will be living in, so please pray that they will go along to these on a regular basis.

HMP Wetherby (W. Yorkshire) – Praise God that a small number of young men here were recently baptised. Please pray that the Lord will strengthen them, so that they might witness to others of their age.





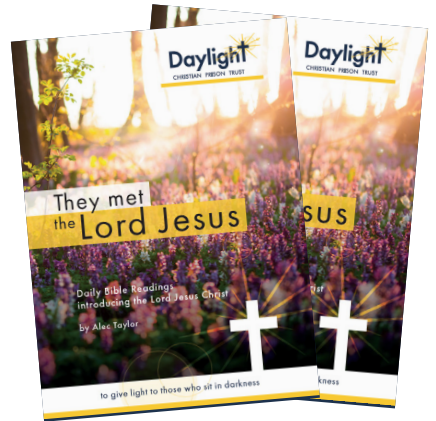
News from the Office: Rejoicing in Heaven

Two weeks ago Sunday the LORD allowed the Daylight team in HMP Chelmsford to be the cause of rejoicing in heaven. It was a less than typical Sunday; we had a new team member with us, sermon prep had had to be finished that morning, the service was slow to start, and there were some who were struggling to be quiet. And yet as John 16:16ff was expounded and we heard Jesus explain how our sorrow will turn to joy; a young man named Dan gave his life to the LORD.

After the service Dan spoke with one of the volunteers, "I want to be born again" was his line. And with careful explanation and a prayer, we believe he was. I spoke with him again Sunday just gone, he is going on with the LORD, working his way through Alec Taylor's book, *They Met the LORD Jesus*, and praying. Dan was sat with two more mature believers and we shared The Parable of the Sower and discussed what sort of soil he was and how his new life might go forward, what weeds and tares might spring up around him, and how to put down deep roots. I challenged the other two to nurture him and encouraged

him to share with them and pray. Dan has a good job on the wing but this currently happens at the same time as our Bible Studies, so please pray that we can continue to help him grow in his faith.

Sadly we have now run out of copies of *They Met the LORD Jesus* and need to order a new print run. We have reached out to one or two sources for a grant to help fund this but have so far been un-successful. If we buy enough the price comes to about £1 per copy. Is this something you could help with?



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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