



# Daylight

CHRISTIAN PRISON TRUST



Daylight Newsletter October 2025

**We are grateful for the continued opportunities we have to run regular Bible studies in a number of prisons. It is always a joy to see the enthusiasm of those attending to learn more from the Bible and to hear of prisoners coming to trust in Christ as their Saviour.**

In HMP Hollesley Bay (Suffolk), our Daylight chaplain reports that a number of men requested an additional weekly Bible study because they wanted something *“with more depth”*. This has just started with around ten men studying *The Beatitudes*, and we pray that those who know the Lord will be strengthened, and that those who do not yet will find the Saviour.

Please pray particularly for one man attending who is a Jew, with whom our chaplain has had excellent weekly conversations, that he may find the Messiah who has come.

In HMP Oakwood (Staffordshire), a group of over twenty men come along for several hours of study on a weekday morning. Having looked at Psalm 51 in a recent session, they asked if we could move on to look at the life of Solomon in future weeks. Their hunger for learning more from God’s Word is a real encouragement and they are always reluctant to leave at the end of the sessions.

In another prison, James, who came in for drink and GBH offences, became a Christian after attending monthly studies run by our volunteers. It was wonderful to hear from one of these volunteers that he recently had the joy of attending James’ baptism in a local church, just a week after his release.

Our volunteer writes, *“I spoke to James’ son at the service (an unbeliever) and he said his dad was a changed man – praise God! He said before he had to continually keep an eye on James as he was always getting into trouble, but this had all now changed since he had become a Christian”*.

Please pray that these opportunities will continue and that the Lord will keep blessing these Bible study sessions that take place in various prisons week by week, so that many more prisoners like James will be transformed by the power of the gospel. Pray too that their families will see the change in them and want to find out more about the gospel themselves.



October Prayer Points



**HMP Chelmsford (Essex)** – Give thanks for continued opportunities to run weekly Bible studies here. At one recent session when we were thinking about the resurrection, a man who was new to the group asked many searching questions, and shared that he had previously been the cellmate of a Jehovah's Witness. Please pray that the answers given in that session will stimulate deeper thinking on what the true gospel is and that he would read the books he took away with him.

Later in the session during the prayer and discussion time, another man shared that he was overwhelmed by his current situation, especially his separation from his family. Please pray that he will continue to be comforted by the Comforter Himself.

**HMP Deerbolt (County Durham)** – Give thanks for the men who attend the weekly Bible studies here. Please pray that the current series on the life of Joseph will be used in their hearts and lives.

**HMP Featherstone (Staffordshire)** – Give thanks for an encouraging service here recently, with a good number of men attending who were very attentive. Please pray that the message they heard will be used to speak to them.

**HMP Five Wells (Northamptonshire)** – Give thanks for fourteen men who attended the latest Bible study session,

looking at Mark 3. Please pray that these times of study will continue to be an encouragement to them.

Give thanks too for the smaller Faith Circle group with elderly prisoners, where we have recently been able to consider the topics of sin and forgiveness, that this will cause these men to see their need of forgiveness which can only be found in Christ.

**HMP Kirklevington Grange (North Yorkshire)** – Please pray for the men who come along to the regular Sunday services in this open prison, that the messages they hear will encourage and equip them as they prepare to leave prison.

**HMP Leeds (West Yorkshire)** – Praise God that despite some men being released or moved to other prisons, the good numbers attending the two Bible study groups are being maintained. Please pray that this will continue.

**Minty** – Please continue to pray for Minty, a prisoner with many complex problems who struggles with self-harm. He attends services and Bible studies regularly, so please pray for God to intervene in his life and for the chaplains and Daylight workers seeking to support him.

**HMP New Hall (West Yorkshire)** – Please pray that the prison will be willing to advertise the regular Bible studies to the ladies here, and that this will lead to an increase in the numbers attending.

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**Office** – Give thanks for some recent work done on our office building which has enabled us to rearrange our working layout, giving more space and making our stocks of literature more accessible for packing and distribution to prisons.

**Patrick** – Please pray for Patrick, a prisoner we have had contact with for many years who may be released again soon. Give thanks for a Daylight worker and local church who have given much time to supporting him, and please pray that Patrick will be kept on the right path, and not return to prison again as he has done previously.

**Staff Shortages** – Please continue to pray for the many prisons who are struggling with staff shortages, and for the implications this has on the daily running of these establishments, with many prisoners spending more time in their cells.

**HMP Wakefield (West Yorkshire)** – Please continue to pray that vacancies in the Chaplaincy Team will be filled by those who love the gospel. A service is now being held every Thursday morning, with members of the Daylight team taking an active part each week.

Some members of our team have been invited to attend a Pre-Quality Assurance Day which is being led by the Regional Adviser. Please pray that they will have the opportunity to highlight the work of Daylight.

**HMP Wealstun (West Yorkshire)** – Give thanks for a lively group of eleven men who attended the first session of the *Hope Explored* course here. Two men were released a few days later and

so will not be able to attend further sessions, but please pray that they will remember what they heard in the first part of the course, that Jesus is their Wonderful Counsellor and Mighty God.

**HMYOI Wetherby (West Yorkshire)** – Praise God that one of the new members of the team has completed her vetting form here, hoping to go in on a regular basis. Please pray that this will go through smoothly without any delays.

**Workers' Weekend** – Please pray for our staff and volunteers as we meet in Northampton for our second annual Workers' Weekend this month, that the ministry, training, and times of fellowship will be a blessing to all who come. Please particularly pray for all the preparations for this, but particularly for Tim, our Chair of Trustees, as he prepares to preach for the weekend.

**Written Studies** – Give thanks for continued encouragements from our Written Studies, with a growing number of prisoners and ex-offenders receiving these fortnightly. Over the autumn, we are looking at the book of Jonah, and it was particularly encouraging to receive an email from a Managing Chaplain in one prison, telling us how they had felt called to preach on Jonah the previous Sunday and had found our study useful in their preparation.

Please pray that these study sheets will continue to be a blessing to many, bringing encouragement to those prisoners who are believers, and bringing others to see their need of salvation.



## "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30)

Acts 16 is one of my favourite chapters in the entire Bible. Spoiler alert – if you're attending the Workers' Weekend, you'll hear me preach from it and I hope you'll understand why I love it so much.

It's a chapter that simply shows the extraordinary reach and power of the gospel of the Lord Jesus – there is no heart it cannot reach, and no place it cannot go. Even the barriers of a dark, dank, ancient prison cell cannot contain this gospel!

And it's not even a fellow prisoner who responds to Paul and Silas' witness – it's the prison guard! Who knows how many prison officers up and down the country have heard about Jesus through Daylight's work – over and above all the prisoners we've spoken and written to.

What gives the early church in Acts all the confidence in the world is another verse, this time from Isaiah 55:11 – God's promise that *'my word...will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.'*

I don't know about you, but sometimes I find gospel ministry really hard. It can be

daunting and discouraging. Many of our churches are experiencing a season of encouragement at present with a real spiritual hunger seeming to be gripping many people, particularly the young. That is hugely exciting, but for the most part gospel ministry is a hard slog.

And yet, we carry on precisely because of God's promise in Isaiah 55:11. We carry on because, as Paul and Silas discovered in Acts 16, there simply are no barriers that can possibly stand in God's way.

As you serve the Lord Jesus in our prisons, I want to encourage you to remember those truths, and to be inspired to carry on, even when it's hard, because the Lord is at work in wonderful ways.

As you support Daylight's ministry through prayer and financial giving, I want to encourage you to remember these truths too: that you're supporting a work that cannot fail to accomplish what God intends.

May God bless you richly.

Tim

Chair of Trustees

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