

Daylight



CHRISTIAN PRISON TRUST

2025

YEAR BOOK

20 years in Prison

*"Daylight
for me has
been truly that
- daylight in the
darkness of
prison"
(Prisoner)*



to give light to those who sit in darkness

Looking Back at 20 years of Daylight



Tim Diaper

Chair of Trustees

*"It's
such a joy
to see the light
of the gospel
penetrate the
darkest of
places"*

*How good is the God we adore –
our faithful, unchangeable friend.
His love is as great as his power,
and knows neither measure nor end.*

*For Christ is the First and the Last;
His Spirit will guide us safe home:
We'll praise him for all that is past,
and trust him for all that's to come.*

(Joseph Hart)

Those lyrics have often been close to me during the seasons of change that come with following and serving Jesus, and remind us that he is the Lord of our past and of our future too.

That is abundantly true for Daylight as we stand at this moment, reflecting on and celebrating God's goodness over the last 20 years...and as we turn the page to the next era.

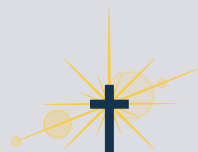


Be encouraged by
Daylight workers'
testimonies on our
new podcast.

Over these pages, you will read of acts of service, of lives changed, of miraculous provision. As a Trust Board, we're genuinely thankful to everyone who has been involved in these stories, our history: staff and CEOs, volunteers, donors, trustees, and many more. Those of us involved in Daylight today stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before, and we delight to follow their lead in serving Jesus.

When we appointed Gaius as CEO, we were conscious that it heralded a new era for Daylight as we look to the future. But we know that the Lord is already there. What a joy it is to follow him into all that he has in store for us. I hope that you're encouraged and excited as you read this book.

Together, let's praise him for all that is past, and trust him for all that's to come.



Biblical

Available

Reliable

Respectful

Looking Forward Our Vision for the Future



Gaius Phillingham

CEO

*It is my
hope that
Daylight Prison
Chaplains will
be remembered
as "the Prison
Preachers"*

Arriving at Daylight in 2023 was a complete surprise, I freely admit I did not see it coming! I should have known that Our Father in Heaven always uses His servants as He sees fit! Those early days were joyous; attending my first prison service on Easter Day, visiting our Chaplains and teams who go into prison, learning about our history from the office team and Steven, my predecessor. All as the 20th anniversary was rapidly approaching.

In September that year, as the Board was refocussed and considered updating our charitable status to a CIO, I presented a strategy document called Connections+. We had been led to Isaiah 54, a chapter that counsels Israel to prepare to be blessed,

*"Enlarge the place of your tent,
And let them stretch out the curtains of
your dwellings;
Do not spare;
Lengthen your cords,
and strengthen your stakes."*

And blessed we have been and, God willing, will be more and more. Throughout our anniversary year (June '24 – '25) God granted the increase to our ministries. The 5 year strategy includes a more local focus, connecting the local Church(es) with their local prison(s) via Daylight Prayer & Support Groups which underpin the work. Our hope is that by God's grace we will be able to provide a Daylight Prison Chaplain supported by a PSG for every UK prison that wants one.

While preparing the Strategy, an early morning prayer walk ended at the foot of the light in Hanham, Bristol that marks the spot where John Wesley preached in the Open Air to the miners; he and others are remembered as The Field Preachers. If ever the history of this generation is written, then maybe Daylight Prison volunteers would be known as "the prison preachers"; that is my on-going prayer.

Chaplains in Every Prison

Resourcing and supporting Christian Chaplains is the key strategic focus for Daylight, and we work closely with the Prison Chaplaincy teams to help them respect the rights of prisoners who wish to register and practice their Christian faith while in custody. Journeying alongside prisoners on a regular and consistent basis gives huge opportunities and brings the greatest joy as God blesses old and new believers. Daylight Prison Chaplains typically witness several baptisms every year."



"As a Chaplain in HMPPS for more than thirty years my happiest and most blessed times have been my association with Daylight; it is the single biggest support in my chaplaincy work."

"At times we are aware of the intensity of the spiritual battle in which we are engaged. One week, a prisoner appears to be understanding and responding to the good news of the gospel and showing evidence of the Holy Spirit being at work in their life.....

.....the next week you find he's been involved in a serious assault or has been found unconscious under the influence of drugs.

Some demonstrate great need (bereavement, anxiety, depression); others are clearly seeking answers as they draw near to God; and others show evidence of true saving faith."

"Being a volunteer Daylight Chaplain is a great privilege and blessing. Most of my day is spent speaking one to one with prisoners in their cells or elsewhere. Some specifically ask to meet me, and I see others as part of my regular duties. We will often pray and open the Bible together to see God's guidance and love and are encouraged to press on as we do that."

Chaplains must see prisoners when they arrive and before they are released. They carry a range of literature and Daylight cards which invite prisoners to the Sunday service or introduce them to our 'Letter Writing' service.

Learning & Praising



Being invited to go into prisons and take Sunday services has been a constant ingredient of Daylight's ministry – reading and preaching the Word; prayer & praise. It was the reason Day One established Daylight as a separate Charity to its diary ministry, and most Christians have been introduced to 'inside prison' work through the past twenty years by going into prison for a Sunday service.

The services vary in form and numbers and are always provided to meet the requirements of the Chaplaincy team in each prison. The Word is the key focus of the service, which includes hymns and

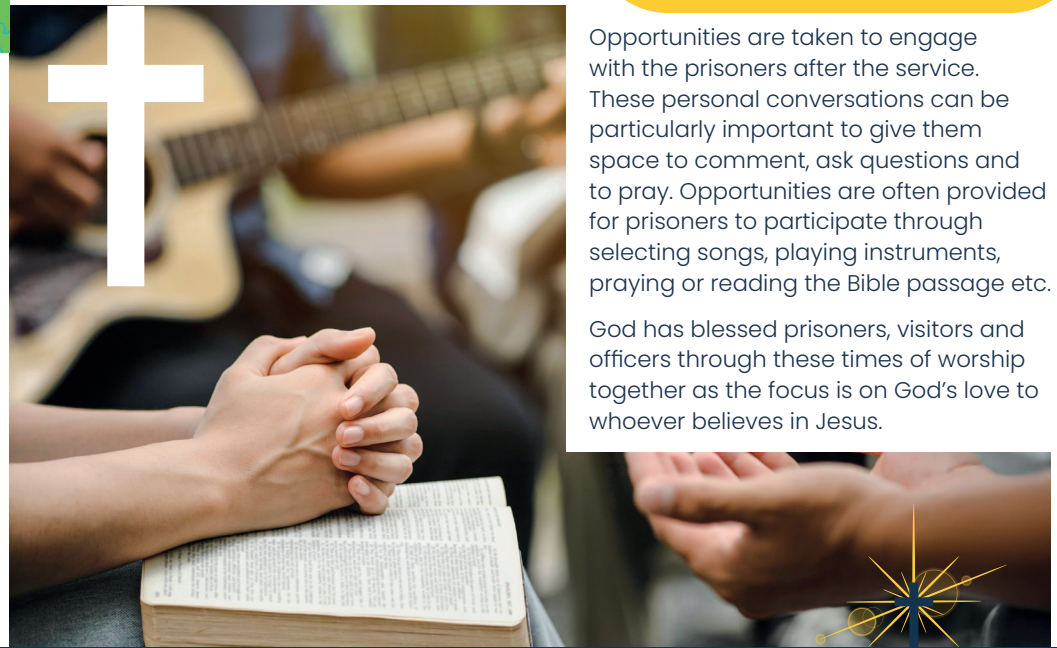
songs, prayer and Scripture readings, sometimes following the Lectionary.

A service in prison has common characteristics with services in Churches every Sunday. It is for sinners who need conversion and saints progressing to salvation, who come from a wide range of backgrounds and worldviews... and have different abilities. Prisoners tend to quickly see through insincerity and respect kindness, honesty and directness. There is one big difference to most Church services – the congregation is single-sex (other than officers and volunteers) and, almost always, all males.

"I would like to say how inspiring it was...The service gave me the strength for today to go forward and to have hope for tomorrow" (Prisoner).

Opportunities are taken to engage with the prisoners after the service. These personal conversations can be particularly important to give them space to comment, ask questions and to pray. Opportunities are often provided for prisoners to participate through selecting songs, playing instruments, praying or reading the Bible passage etc.

God has blessed prisoners, visitors and officers through these times of worship together as the focus is on God's love to whoever believes in Jesus.



A day in the life of a Daylight Chaplain

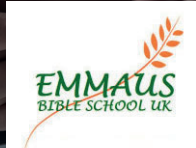


Bible Studies



Whether 1-to-1 or 1-to-many, there is no greater privilege than to help someone understand the Word of God, to show them Jesus. Most of our Chaplains encourage starting with a Gospel and often recommend a study book to go alongside reading. It might be the simplicity of an Emmaus Bible School course, Alec Taylor's study guide, 'They met the Lord Jesus' or an in depth dive over 52 studies using Mark Time.

Courses like Hope Explored often run in remand prisons where the 'churn' (turnover of prisoners) is higher, and longer studies like Fly Through the Bible in more stable environments.



"Coming to prison is the best thing that has ever happened to me. I've found Christ and I'm beginning to learn the Bible" (Prisoner).

Annual Workers' Weekend



Our second Annual Daylight Workers Gathering in October '25 was, according to one delegate, "excellent - an overall improvement on last year." and we hope to continue the improvement into next year!

Our strategy is to bring workers together and share best practice, encourage one another by sharing the joys and praying for the challenges, to be fed by great teaching from the Bible and nice cheese!

"Good ministry from Tim! He made it very applicable to prison ministry."

Thank you for all your efforts with the conference, it was great to be there with everyone.

Thank you for allowing non Daylight workers along to the conference

The Bible studies were great and the prayer times seemed to work well.



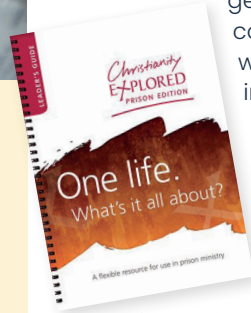
Save the Date

All who go into Prison with Daylight are invited to join us in Flitwick...
2nd & 3rd October '26



Stephen James

12 years after Daylight helped Christianity Explored Ministries (CEM) tailor Christianity Explored (CE) for use with prisoners we approached them to discuss an 'Anniversary Edition'. The end result, by God's grace and the generosity of CEM, is that a completely refreshed course will be launched, God willing, in 2026.



Without losing the tried and tested strengths of CE, we hope to get the Bible open with a generation who have no idea who Jesus is. We anticipate that this will be widely used and available in prisons, not least in a new format on the Prison Services intranet, 'Launchpad'.

We have secured, the appropriate permissions to use the CEPE material and the NIRV translation of the Scriptures. We have retained the services of an experienced cameraman/director and identified the locations in Shrewsbury Prison from where we plan for Stephen James to share his conversion testimony and take us through Mark's gospel.



Regular supporters of Daylight have funded about half of the original estimate of the costs and we are actively seeking more funds and planning a filming schedule.



Watch the promotional video & Stephen's testimony

Quotes in support of CEPE...

- "I think I get it - I think I'm a Christian!" - Prisoner at CEPE Course*
- "Do you know, I am happier now than I have ever been in my whole life, even though I'm in prison because I have found Christ as my Saviour" - Prisoner at CEPE Course*

During a CE session, when Jason realised that Mark 10:45, "the Son of Man came to give His life as a ransom for many", applies not to everyone, but only to those who trust in Jesus, he said, "Wow! That's a cracking verse!"

"The course is getting wonderful feedback from all the men" - Prison Chaplain



from darkness to light

Written Studies



Beginning in the early months of the pandemic in 2020, this ministry was initially intended to encourage prisoners who were unable to attend the usual services and Bible studies while prisons were under tight restrictions. During that time, it was a joy to see how much prisoners appreciated these studies, and it was particularly encouraging to hear from Wyatt, who wrote...

...“I just wanted to drop you a line and thank you. Not just for connecting me with a letter writer and the friendship we’ve developed, but the weekly readings and Scripture that I’ve come to feel sustains me in these challenging times”.

Prisoners were eager to keep receiving the written studies after restrictions lifted, and this has now grown into a regular part of Daylight’s ministry, with the studies produced fortnightly. We are also able to upload the sheets to a national resource folder for free church prison chaplains, many of whom also print and distribute them, meaning that these studies are now reaching far more prisoners than we ever anticipated.

With the introduction of new sign-up cards as part of our 20th Anniversary celebrations, the number of prisoners

receiving these from us directly has also quadrupled, and continues to grow week by week. Some who have left prison are keen to continue receiving these studies too, and one ex-offender, Will, writes...

...“The fact that your Daylight literature keeps coming to my house is such a blessing in itself. Really love the stories and their messages”.

These studies have covered a variety of topics, often a series looking at the life of a Bible character such as David or Moses, and thinking about more seasonal topics at times such as Easter and Christmas. We are grateful that Simon Allaby of *Turn the Page* has partnered with us in writing a number of these, as well as creating a booklet of short stories themed around Pentecost, which was sent into prisons alongside the studies.



“Thank you for the Daylight sheets. I love to get them. I always read them a few times; they help keep me going. I pass them on to other people, not just in prison but to my family and friends outside”.

Letter Writing Ministry



For the last fifteen years, our Letter Writing Ministry has been a significant part of Daylight’s work. With many prisoners receiving little or no contact from family and friends outside, they can often feel cut off from the outside world, and receiving a personal letter can be a great encouragement to them. One prisoner, Jack, writes...

...“That there are people bringing light into others’ lives; that there are those who volunteer to write to me, to us, to prisoners in general; it warms my heart in ways I couldn’t even begin to explain. So from the depths of my heart – thank you all, for what you do. All of you”.

As well as increasing the number of prisoners requesting written studies, the introduction of sign-up cards last year has also made an impact on the Letter Writing Ministry, with the amount of prisoners requesting letter writing doubling in just nine months. We are grateful that new requests continue to come in regularly and for the way the Lord has been raising up new volunteers to meet this growing need.

Some of the prisoners receiving letters are believers, and really value having another Christian to write to. They often have questions about passages they have been reading, and our volunteers have the opportunity to discuss these with them, encouraging them as they seek to grow in grace and knowledge of Christ. Others have very little knowledge of the Bible, and are just grateful for some outside contact. Yet these letters give our volunteers the opportunity to speak about their faith and this often leads to the prisoners asking more questions.

These contacts are not just an encouragement to the prisoners, but also are a blessing to our volunteers. Reflecting on her experience, one of our volunteers said...

...“Writing letters is something I don’t often do these days, thanks to email and texting, but I have thoroughly enjoyed taking time to sit and write to someone and get to know them. Although he wasn’t a Christian when he entered prison, Andrew has found Christ, is eagerly absorbing everything he can about Him and has seen his life changed”.

Prisoners receiving Written Studies directly **quadrupled** during the anniversary year and prisoners using letter writing **doubled** over just nine months

Prayer & Support

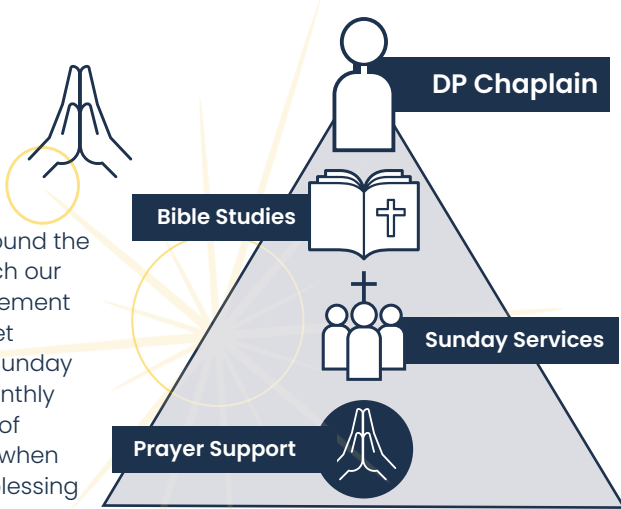
Regular prayer from our PSGs around the country is the foundation on which our work is built and a real encouragement to our workers. Some groups meet occasionally before they take a Sunday service in prison, others meet monthly with a 'full' agenda. The privilege of praying for the local prison even when the work cannot take place is a blessing as the history of the West Yorkshire PSG shows...

In 2017 WYPSG was formed when 7 people from 2 churches gathered with Glynn Jones to pray. Monthly bringing the work before the LORD a key thought was, "there but for the grace of God..."; 5 committed to serve in prison and 2 to pray.

The LORD saw fit to open the door first to the local Category A prison, HMP Wakefield. Vetting and training followed so that all 5 could 'draw keys' and begin attending meetings and services on a weekly basis. The team were also enabled to lead a monthly *Prayer and Reflection Meeting*. On occasion 1 to 1 visits on the wing for Bible Study and Pastoral Support became possible.

Regular prayer led to training for and delivering Christianity Explored Prison Edition and then the doors began to open in the other prisons. A request for a Bible Study in HMP New Hall was followed by one from HMP Leeds. As the demand grew so did the prayer for new members

- At least **15 PSGs** over **20 years**
- **6 Active today** (Canterbury, Chelmsford, Milton Keynes, Norwich, Solent, West Yorks.)
- **4 envisaged for 2026** (Bristol, Doncaster, Isle of Wight, North East)



and after a visit to another local church, the LORD provided another worker. Then COVID happened!

Monthly calls for prayer points from the prisons and sending in weekly Bible Study resources allowed the connections to be maintained and HMP Wakefield again were first to welcome the team back when restrictions were lifted. The PSG began to meet in person again.

By 2024 the demand from the prisons was outstripping the time and energy of the PSG and much prayer was offered. The LORD again blessed us, initially with 5 who are now ready to serve and a further 4, who are being vetted and trained. Ministry to all 5 prisons continues to grow.

Jean, the team leader writes...

... "When the Lord challenged each one of us to become involved in taking the gospel into prisons, none of us fully realised what joy and blessing it would bring. Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

Support on Release

The problems facing a prisoner on release have been well documented and for some are so significant that the only solution they can see is to re-offend and be returned to the environment they now regard as preferable to the struggle of re-establishing a life 'on the outside'.

Very often family relationships have been strained, or even irretrievably broken; finding a job is difficult because of their recent past and obtaining a decent roof over their head is very difficult, not least financially. (Prisoners are given £89.52 on release)

Daylight has links with Community Chaplaincies to whom we refer former prisoners as and when appropriate; and Daylight Chaplains play a significant role in preparing prisoners for this transition.

Mentoring

We seek to support prisoners we have come to know through our work in prison when they come out. Daylight people act as mentors, very often in an informal way, meeting with the ex-offender for coffee and a chat every couple of weeks.

I made it at last, Simon! "Patience is a virtue..." 11:59

Simon Excellent news, Pete. May the church be a blessing to you and you to the church. 12:01

Thank you. You wouldn't believe the change the Lord has made in my life over these last 14/15 months!!! 12:03

Simon He truly is a wonderful God. Such a privilege to serve Him! Keep going, brother: Hebrews 12: 1 & 2 12:05

Amen to that!!! 12:07

- We're currently helping & supporting **20 former prisoners**
- We have been directly involved in **10 baptisms since 2020**



Church

Christian prisoners on their release need to be settled in a good Bible-believing church. We've rejoiced with the angels in heaven over those who came to faith.

Some prisoners, especially those on licence or after a short sentence, find this change difficult; as do some churches. Daylight works, with all involved, to ensure the best possible outcome for all.

Daylight is an affiliate of the Welcome Directory which lists places of worship open to accept former prisoners and provides good training to those churches.

The active support of a Daylight Prayer & Support Group is invaluable in this.

Funding the work

MONEY IN



God has given the £3m we have needed to visit Him in over 70 prisons in the past 20 years



Around £2m has been given by individual Christians



Churches & Christian Trusts have both given c.£½m.

Daylight has never received any 'public funding' (other than Gift Aid on individual giving)



We thank God, and everyone who has been involved, for ensuring that we have always received the funds when we needed them.



Famine Feast & Faith

(remembering Joseph)

The story of Joseph is regularly featured in conversations with prisoners... (as are other Bible characters and Bible references to prisons, chains, locked doors, etc)

God's role for Joseph as Egypt and the world at that time experienced years of abundance and years of famine is also very relevant to the financial progress of Daylight through the twenty years it has lived so far.

Over the first half of those years, funds were very tight on many occasions with God providing money as it was needed at the end of some months.

That position gradually changed in the years leading up to the Covid pandemic which saw a significant improvement in Daylight's bank balance. By the end of 2022, it was £174k (five years earlier it had been £16k!)

Since then, the funds from those years of plenty have depleted as funds are used to send God's word and His people in to engage with ever more prisoners where they are. We praise God for all He has done and continue our journey of Faith.

Recognising Our Beginnings

It is our joy and privilege to continue to make an annual donation to **Day One Ministries** for the 200,000 + Day One Diaries given to prisoners each year.

MONEY OUT

80% Ministry Costs



Over those 20 years, 80% of the funds received have funded:-

- a Chief Executive and one other employee at our Head Office in Chelmsford, and...
- several Regional Directors who were part funded by local churches and individual Christians by around £30k.

To keep pace with the growth in demand for Daylight's work, we are now:-

- Expanding the central support for the work
- Switching from matching local 'restricted fund' support for Regional Directors to funding Daylight Chaplains in prisons where they are needed.

20% Other Costs



The remainder has been primarily spent on

- the administration costs required to run the small office in Chelmsford to support them (and with huge thanks to our Christian landlord), and
- the costs of communicating with
 - prisoners via our letter writing and monthly messages and
 - our supporters via the monthly newsletter.

Funding the Future

This 'Twenty Year' Book has highlighted current developments and changes in the work we are being called to do. They all need Christians... and funds.

Daylight's work has been growing fast and the move towards providing more Chaplains is already being welcomed within the Prison Service. Daylight's core purpose remains the same – "to give light to those who sit in darkness". That drives our aims of providing ever more messengers to present the gospel in ways which relate powerfully with prisoners. And there will be even more Christians who will hear Jesus' words at the end of their lives – "I was in prison and you came to me".

To summarise, we are looking for more:

- Daylight Prison Chaplains
- Prison Volunteers
- Opportunities to lead Sunday Services
- Opportunities to lead Bible Studies
- Letter Writers
- Men to receive Fortnightly Gospel Messages



Relaunched Prison edition of Christianity Explored

Our Partners



As we serve the Lord Jesus and His gospel and all those whose lives are affected by prison we are proud to partner with many local churches, groups of churches and wider Christian and non-Christian organisations.

Each relationship is unique some are short, others predate our current legal and charitable status. Some of them are listed here.



20th Anniversary Partners



Our Vision & Mission

Refreshed for our 20th Anniversary year, 2024...

Daylight is a Christian charity that exists to "glorify God and enjoy Him" by prayerfully proclaiming the gospel of His grace in every UK prison and to ex-offenders and their families.

Working alongside local Bible-believing churches, and through HMPPS and Community Chaplaincy networks, we aspire to be a nationally reaching, locally rooted provider of the highest quality gospel ministry to prisoners. Providing prisoners and their families with Biblical guidance, and assisting them to lead God-honouring and socially useful lives on release.

OUR BASIS OF FAITH is a belief in:

1. God as the Creator of all men, and the Father of all who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. The Lord Jesus Christ as the only begotten Son of God, Redeemer of the World, and the one Mediator, through faith in Whom alone we obtain forgiveness of sins.
3. God the Holy Spirit – The Third Person of the Holy Trinity, who regenerates, indwells and transforms every believer, and glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. The fact of sin, and the necessity of the atonement.
5. The incarnation, sinless life, ministry, death, resurrection, ascension and the personal return of the Lord Jesus Christ.
6. The eternal blessedness of those who are saved, and the eternal punishment of the unsaved.
7. The whole Bible as the inspired, infallible and complete Word of God.



from darkness to light

Then the King will say...
'...I was in prison and...

PARCERE SVBIECTIS



**YOU
CAME
TO
ME**

Matthew 25:34,36

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