



Daylight Newsletter April 2016

“Expect great things from God.”

We have received many encouragements over the last month. At our weekly staff Skype meetings it is great to hear updates on our various activities in prisons and of individual prisoners and ex-offenders we pray for.

Christianity Explored (CE) courses have been a particular encouragement recently. At one of our courses a prisoner said, “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.”

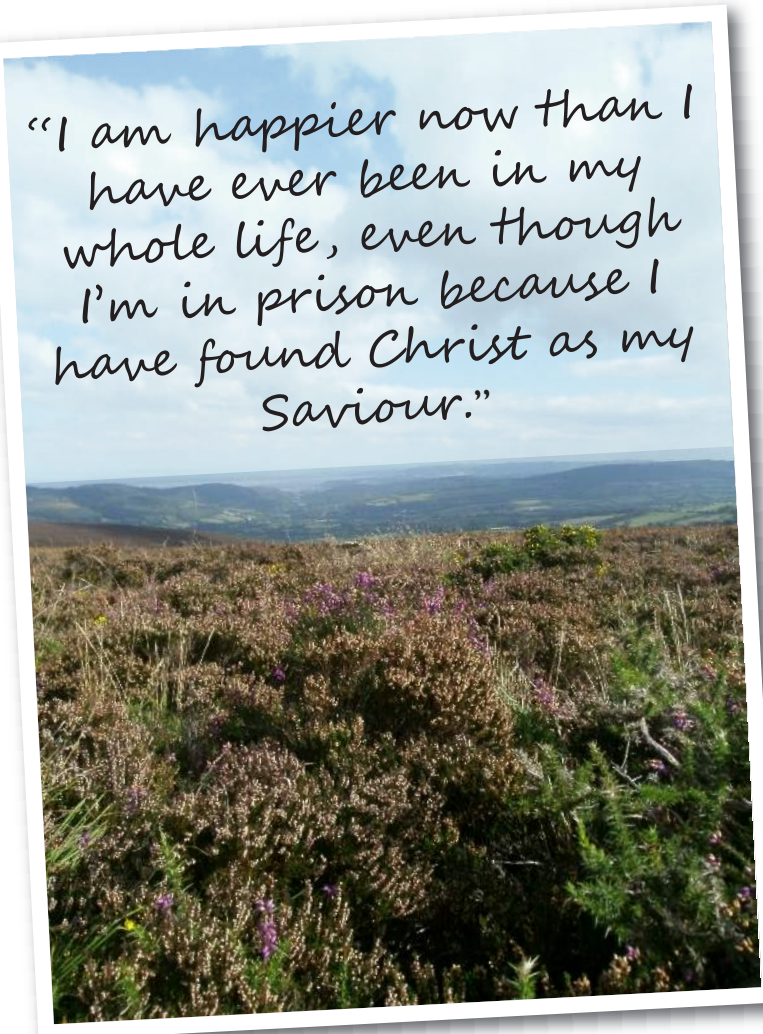
We recently had eight prisoners come for the first session of a course and it was an encouragement to have one prisoner who had completed the CE and Discipleship Explored courses before as he was able to help other prisoners with the course.

At another CE course it has been a joy to see a prisoner who came to faith in prison growing in grace. By the time you read this, he will have been released and we would ask you to pray that he will have the help and support he needs on the outside and that he would continue to grow.

As well as these courses, Sunday services also give us opportunities to speak to individual prisoners. After a service a few months ago Nigel spoke to a prisoner named Joseph who said he did not believe in God. Recently Nigel was at the same prison preaching on the uniqueness of Christ. Following the service, Joseph spoke to Nigel and said that he had realised there must be a God and that he had become a Christian.

All these things are answers to prayer and a reminder that as William Carey said, we should “*expect great things from God*” and “*attempt great things for God.*”





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April Prayer Points

HMP Portland - Since the New Year, there have been quite a few cancellations of our weekly Bible studies due to lack of staff. It is good to see that the prisoners get frustrated by this as they are eager to attend and learn more of the Bible.

One of our volunteers continues his studies in Romans with one group of prisoners and another has now started a Bible overview with another group. Both are going well and they thank God for wisdom in managing those whose inquisitiveness needs gentle directing!

Please pray for continued regular opportunities, for clarity about Jesus and the Gospel and for grace to be good witnesses.

HMP Sudbury – Give thanks the numbers have increased at our Sunday services and Bible studies here.

Andrew – Andrew is a Christian who has been coming to our Bible studies for several years and has recently been released. Please pray for him.

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Chaplaincy – One of our staff who is a volunteer chaplain recently had to tell a man that his wife of many years had died. On the same day he had to speak to a man in his early 20s who had heard indirectly that his father had died. Please pray for these prisoners and for those in chaplaincy roles that they would be a good witness in these situations.

Regional Director for the North – As many of you will know, we are seeking to recruit someone to lead our work in the North of England. Please pray that the right person will be found for this role.

Release - Please pray for prisoners being released that they would find Bible teaching churches to attend and that these churches would be a support to them.

Scotland – Give thanks for the genuine interest of all those who attended the recent Discipleship Explored course and for those whose lives have been transformed as a result of the studies and the weekly preaching of the Word.

Please remember the next Christianity Explored course with a new group which is just beginning. A couple of those who have completed the previous courses have requested to do them again which is encouraging. Pray that as the Gospel is being explained to them they may come to a personal knowledge of the Lord.

One prisoner who has now been released told us that he will be attending church because his attitude to life has been changed through hearing the Gospel in prison. Pray that he may trust fully in the Lord and that he will also obtain access to his children as this is very important to him.

Services - Since a recent change of Managing Chaplain at one prison where we regularly run services, just one Sunday service has been arranged, for May. It seems somewhat harder to make preaching arrangements since the change. Please pray that it will become easier and that we will continue to have opportunities to run services in this prison.

Simon - Please pray for Simon, a prisoner we have known for over three years who has now been sent back to North America. He has told us that it is God's grace that has enabled him to serve his sentence without being drawn into drugs or other things and that the Daylight services in prison were a lifeline to him.

Stands – Give thanks for the opportunities to have stands at Word Alive and Banner of Truth's Youth and Ministers Conferences this month. Please pray that these would lead to more people praying for and being involved with Daylight.



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