



## Daylight Newsletter August 2020

Over the last month we have continued to send written messages into prisons and it has been amazing to hear how many prisoners are being reached with these, with one chaplain saying he has been giving out hundreds of them. As well as sending them in to chaplains, copies have also been posted to prisoners using our letter writing ministry and we have been particularly encouraged by one man, Wyatt, who has been sharing the messages with Glenn, a friend on his wing. They like to discuss the messages and their beliefs and have friendly debates on the points they disagree on.

As well as the written messages, Wyatt was also sent *Big Picture*, a Bible overview course written by David (the leader of the prison ministry team at St Helen's, Bishopsgate). Wyatt again shared this with Glenn and it was lovely to receive a large envelope from them with pages of detailed answers to the questions in the course. Answering one question about who Jesus is, what He came to do and how his view on this had changed since doing the course, Glenn wrote "The course has helped me to strengthen my belief in Jesus as the fulfilment of God's promise. It has helped to underline God's total and absolute commitment – God's love for His creation. He has never given up on His creation, again and again He taught us to hope for salvation. That hope was fulfilled in the child born for us, the innocent lamb slain for our sin, and in the resurrection of Jesus. I feel loved, and that love has deepened by doing this course. It has also helped me to take a very close look at how I am responding to that love."

Please pray that what they have learnt through this course will stay with them and that having seen the love of God for the lost, both Wyatt and Glenn will respond with repentance and faith.

## August Prayer Points

**Al** – Please pray for Al who recently requested a Bible. When we saw him the following week, he had been finding the Bible Reading Notes helpful. Pray that there may be the opportunity for further chats with him.

**Julia** – Please pray for Julia, a female prisoner who is terminally ill, coming to the end of one sentence and facing a trial for fresh charges. She is about to have surgery with a slim chance of prolonging her life. She is far from home and her family do not know her situation but she said she has “been talking to God a lot lately”. She was told about Daylight and is eager to see someone. Please pray that it will be possible for us to arrange for someone to visit her and for the Lord to work in her heart and life.

**Lou** – Please pray for Lou who has only recently begun to think about what the Gospel is all about. He is soon to be released and is keen to make links with a church. Please pray that it might be possible to put something in place for him.

**Patrick** – Give thanks that Patrick’s hearing in July seems to have gone well. Please pray for him as he awaits sentencing and for the Lord to work in his heart.

**Peter Maiden** – Please pray for the family of Peter Maiden following his death in July. Known to many through his work with Operation Mobilisation and the Keswick Convention, he had also worked with Daylight running Christianity Explored Prison Edition and had been one of our letter writing volunteers for some time. His letters giving spiritual advice and encouragement have been a real help to the Christian prisoner he corresponded with and we have been able to send the prisoner a copy of Peter’s new book, *Radical Gratitude*, written during his time suffering from cancer. Please pray that Peter’s wife Win and the rest of the family will know the Lord’s help and comfort at this time.

**Prisoners’ Families** – Please pray for Christian parents or family members of those in prison, many of whom have been praying for their loved ones for years.

**Richard (Ex-offender)** – Give thanks that Richard has been given a new driving job after losing his previous employment at the start of the lockdown. Please pray that the job will work out well for him and that he

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will continue to be encouraged in his faith.

**Solent Prayer & Support Group** – Please pray that the written messages being sent into one local prison will be given out to the men there and that they will be beneficial to them.

Pray too that once the current restrictions end, there will be further opportunities for the team to work in local prisons. One of the prisons is currently looking for a new Managing Chaplain, so please pray that the person appointed might be someone who enables the team to do more.

**Terry** – Please pray for Terry who is feeling guilt and remorse over the death of his victims by dangerous driving and the impact it has had on both his and the victims' families. Please pray for pastoral wisdom in such situations as we seek to offer support without minimising the offence and that this sense of guilt would make Terry aware of his spiritual need.

**HMP Wayland (Norfolk)** – Give thanks that J was safely delivered to his hostel in the North. Please pray that the church he has been put in touch with will prove suitable and that some gaps in his understanding will be filled by the teaching he receives there.

Please pray that as one of the long standing and very experienced evangelical Anglican chaplains retires, a suitable replacement will be found and will get on well with the team.

Pray too for S, a Christian prisoner who is making good progress and using his time wisely to study the Bible during the long hours of lockdown but is struggling to concentrate with constant heavy beat music from a neighbouring cell.

Please also pray that the team from Gt. Ellingham Baptist Church will continue to be given the opportunity to contribute ministry items to be woven into the online morning service.

**West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group** – Give thanks for positive responses to the resources being sent into local prisons each week. The Chaplains have said that they are being used in varying ways, both as individual sheets and within packs of handouts.

Prayer items continue to be obtained each month through phone calls to the Chaplains and we give thanks the environment in the prisons remains stable. Praise the Lord that the restrictions imposed through the pandemic have not had a detrimental effect on behaviour.

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"...from darkness to light..."

# Daylight

christian prison trust



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