



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

**Daylight**  
christian prison trust



## Daylight Newsletter December 2020

In last month's newsletter, we shared something of a conversation between one of our chaplains and a prisoner named Jim, who had requested a Bible and wanted to know if God could forgive him, in light of his past. Our chaplain had spent time speaking to him about characters in the Bible who all failed, but were used by God, and when he saw Jim the next week, found he had been reading through various books of the Bible and applying them to himself.

Since then, it has been encouraging to see Jim continuing to spend lots of time reading Scripture and speaking about how changed he feels, saying, "I feel born again – everything's so different!" He is extremely keen to learn, asking lots of questions and accepting further reading material, and has also been spending time praying with his Christian cell mate, Billy, who our chaplain has also had good conversations with. Please continue to pray for them.

Both prisoners and prison staff continue to express appreciation for the written messages which are sent in each week and it has been encouraging to receive letters from prisoners asking us to send more.

It was particularly touching to read a letter from Wyatt who used to discuss the messages and his beliefs with Glenn, a friend on his wing. He mentioned his disappointment that the Bible study group which had just restarted had stopped again with the increased restrictions and then shared that Glenn had been moved to another wing, saying, "I've lost the only person here who I could discuss spiritual issues with, but we still get weekly material from Daylight which is a relief".

Please pray that the messages will continue to be an encouragement to Wyatt and Glenn and many others like them.



## December Prayer Points

**Aled** – Please pray for Aled who became a Christian during his time in prison. Following his recent release, he has been deported back to the United States where he has very little support. Please pray that he will soon find a good church where he will continue to grow spiritually.

**Carol Services** – Carol Services are often one of the most popular chaplaincy events of the year and while it is unlikely they will be able to take place this year, some prisons do have the facilities to record Christmas messages and show them on in-cell TV. Please pray that these will be used to speak to many.

**Coronavirus** – Many prisons are still struggling with staff shortages due to staff isolating, shielding or being absent through sickness. Weekly COVID-19 testing is now being made available for all prison staff so please pray that this will be a help.

**HMYOI Deerbolt (County Durham)** – The recent lockdown has meant that chaplaincy Bible studies have temporarily ceased. Chaplains are able to speak with prisoners on a one-to-one basis at their cell doors and fifty five young men currently receive the weekly written messages along with other Christian literature. Please pray that these conversations and messages will be an encouragement to them.

Give thanks that there will also be the opportunity to go in on Christmas Day to distribute a Christmas message. Please pray that this too will be read and used in the hearts and lives of many.

Day One diaries for 2021 will be distributed during December to all who would like one. Some of the young men have been asking for them for several weeks as they like to keep their phone numbers in them. Please pray that the verses on each day will be used to speak to them.

**James** – Please pray for James, who has been converted since coming to prison. Give thanks that he has recently been moved to an open prison where there is a Bible-believing chaplain. Please pray that he will settle in well.

**Letter Writing** – Give thanks that the letter writing ministry has been

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particularly appreciated by prisoners this year and that volunteers have often had the opportunity to share Bible verses and give spiritual advice in their letters. Please pray that this will continue to be an encouragement to many prisoners.

**Phil Copple** – Please pray for Phil, the Director General of Prisons in England and Wales. He is very supportive of the work of chaplaincy and values the role that volunteers play. Pray for wisdom as important decisions will need to be made following the current lockdown.

**Solly** – Please continue to pray for Solly. Last month we mentioned that his brother had died but he later found out that it was actually his cousin who had died and that he had been misinformed by his family. This highlights the poor communication and complicated family relationships that many prisoners have. Solly has since asked to receive the weekly messages and to attend Bible studies when they recommence.

**T** – Please pray for T and his family. He was released on licence recently but is facing a difficult court case relating to the consequences of his original offence.

**HMP Wayland (Norfolk)** – Sadly the small, informal, offender-led groups meeting for prayer, fellowship and Bible reading have had to stop due to the further tightening of restrictions on the wings, so please pray that Christians will survive this period of enforced isolation.

Please pray for **S**, a Christian seeking to study to become a Christian Counsellor and for **D**, that his proposed move to an open prison will go ahead and that it will prove helpful to him.

Pray too for **A**, an older Christian with health concerns about unexplained weight loss. Pray that he will get parole soon as he hoped.

**West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group** – There is a general feeling in the prisons in the area that the prisoners are not coping as well during the second lockdown as they were in the first.

Small group sessions, which had only just got underway, have now had to cease again, but in some cases, one to ones are still possible.

In one of the prisons, there is only one Chaplain well enough to go into work. Please pray for him and for the rest of the chaplaincy team there, that they will return to good health soon.

# Daylight Giving Form

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**Please tick the boxes that apply to your giving:**

- Give Now** - Please accept my gift of £\_\_\_\_\_ (to give by debit/credit card, please visit our website [www.daylightcpt.org](http://www.daylightcpt.org) and click on the 'donate' button.)
- Give Regularly** – I want to support Daylight’s work regularly. Please send me a standing order form (to download a form visit [www.daylightcpt.org](http://www.daylightcpt.org) Click on the 'Get Involved' tab, then 'Give a Gift'.)
- Gift Aid** – I want to Gift Aid my donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Daylight Christian Prison Trust. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.
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**Thank you for your support.**

**Please complete this form and return it to Daylight CPT, 126 New London Road, Chelmsford CM2 0RG.**

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