



Daylight Newsletter July 2021

Over the last month it has been encouraging to see Bible study groups and Sunday services resuming in some prisons and to have these opportunities to open up God's Word with groups of prisoners once again. One of our chaplains reports that so many men are keen to come, many of whom have never attended before, and describes this as one of the most exciting evangelistic opportunities he has ever had.

The current restrictions mean that most prisoners are only able to attend services once every few weeks, so prisons are also continuing to give out Daylight's weekly written messages. We are thankful for ongoing positive responses to these and were encouraged recently to hear from Tom, a young believer who says he is really loving the material we send him.

Chaplaincy work also continues to provide good opportunities for conversations with individual prisoners and one of our chaplains has recently been able to spend time with Sam, a young man who struggles with self-harm. While they were speaking together a few weeks ago, Sam said, "I need God in my life" and our chaplain was able to give him a Gideon New Testament, explaining the basics of chapters and verses.

A few days later, Sam said he had been looking at the front of the New Testament which suggests verses to read for help in various circumstances and commented, "It's just like it's speaking to me. It's amazing!" Sam was concerned that his girlfriend would laugh at him if he told her he had been reading the Bible, but when he mentioned it, she was pleased and encouraged him to keep reading it. He is continuing to do so and is praying as well, saying he believes God is hearing him.

We give thanks for these opportunities and pray that the Lord will use them to speak to the hearts of many.

July Prayer Points

Alexander – Please pray for Alexander, a prisoner who was previously homeless and being supported by a local church. He may be deported back to his home country in the future, but pray that contact with the church and one of our chaplains will be beneficial to him.

HMP Deerbolt (County Durham) – Give thanks that Bible study groups and Sunday services have resumed for individual wings on a three-week rota. Please pray for these and for the interviews for the post of Managing Chaplain taking place this month.

Dom – Please pray for Dom, a man whose mother recently passed away suddenly, just a few months after he lost his father. He said his mother was the only person who did not reject him after his crime and gave him hope which was now gone. Our chaplain was able to speak to him about true hope coming from God and Dom said he looks forward to their chats each week. Please pray that the Lord will use this contact to speak to him.

Jimmy – Please continue to pray for Jimmy who has recently returned to prison and is enjoying working through Emmaus Bible School courses.

Judah – Please pray for Judah who recently heard that his partner had taken her own life following a miscarriage earlier this year. He is devastated but has a Bible which he says he is reading three times a day, particularly looking at the Psalms. Please pray for the Lord to work in his heart and life.

HMP Kirklevington Grange (North Yorkshire) – Give thanks for the opportunity to run two Sunday services here each month. Please pray for John as he prepares for and speaks at these.

Mack – Please pray for Mack who has returned to prison following his release last year. He has recently lost his grandmother and is back in contact with one of our chaplains.

Prison Officer – Please pray for an officer who was recently subjected to a particularly violent attack by a prisoner. He has been released from hospital, but has been very shaken by the incident.

Solent Prayer & Support Group – Give thanks for an encouraging service in a local prison during June and for good conversations with individual prisoners. Please pray particularly for C who has come to faith since being

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in prison, for V whose grandmother is unwell with coronavirus and for I who took a New Testament.

HMP Sudbury (Derbyshire) – Give thanks that a good number of men are regularly attending the Bible studies here and for encouraging sessions studying the Psalms with them.

HMP Swansea (South Wales) – Give thanks for continued opportunities to run services here and for a recent conversation with one prisoner who said he wanted to become a Christian. Please pray that he will read the copy of *Ultimate Questions* given to him and for further opportunities to speak to him in coming weeks.

Thomas – Give thanks that Thomas' parole hearing was able to take place and that the outcome was very positive, meaning he will soon be moved to an open prison to prepare for release. Please pray that he will continue to grow in grace and be kept close to the Lord in his future life.

Tim – Please continue to pray for Tim as he struggles with the use of just one hand. He is now reading a Bible that a chaplain has provided and regularly meets up for prayer and discussion.

Travellers – Please pray for the many prisoners from travelling backgrounds who find it difficult to adapt to a closed prison environment. Many of them have a basic understanding of Christian things and a respect for ministers and chaplains.

HMP Usk (South Wales) – Give thanks for the opportunity to return to working in this prison following the easing of some restrictions. Please pray for Stuart as he shares the Gospel with the men here.

West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group – Give thanks that the group's involvement in meetings at one of the nearby prisons is increasing. Sadly, there have been two deaths in custody at another of the prisons, so please pray for the family and friends of both men, as well as the other prisoners and staff who have been affected by their deaths.

Praise God that all is calm in the other prisons and that plans are being made for group meetings and services to be extended once the restrictions are lifted further. In the meantime, resources continue to be sent in on a weekly basis. Please pray that these will be used to God's honour and glory and to bring men and women to Christ.



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