



## Daylight Newsletter January 2022

We are grateful for ongoing opportunities to supply prisons with weekly written messages and other literature, and for continued positive responses to these. During December it was particularly encouraging to receive Christmas cards and letters from prisoners letting us know how much they have appreciated this support over the last year.

Anthony is a prisoner who has used our letter writing ministry for a few years and spends much of his spare time studying the Bible. He sent a card thanking us for the regular written messages and other literature he has received, writing, "I would like to thank you so much for sending me the encouraging Scripture letters, they have been really interesting and have helped me on my journey of faith. It has been a blessing to have Daylight, and thank you, for sending me the study resources. Without you I would not have been able to study and to grow in my faith; thank you once again".

Another prisoner, Brad, who began to write to one of our volunteers last spring writes, "Thank you for sending the teaching sheets, they have some good ways of looking at things and I benefit a lot from them, so thank you." He has many deep questions about spiritual things and is keen to learn more, asking for resources on particular topics and sharing what he is learning with others in the prison.

As prisoners continue to receive written material this year, we pray that the Lord will use it to encourage those who are believers, and that others will be challenged to think about where they stand spiritually, being brought to see their own need of the Saviour.

## January Prayer Points

**DayOne Diaries** – Give thanks for thousands of prisoners who have received DayOne diaries over the Christmas period. Please pray that the Scripture verses for each day will speak to the hearts of many.

**Drew** – Please pray for Drew who was due to be released to a hostel over the Christmas period. He asked to be linked with a church and acknowledges that he needs support as he does not want to return to his pattern of heavy drinking. The Christmas and New Year period can be a particularly challenging time for those being released with drink or drug dependency problems.

**Emmaus Courses** – Give thanks that a number of prisoners continue to complete Emmaus Bible School Correspondence courses in their cells. Please pray that these will be used to speak to the hearts of many.

**Harry** – Please pray for Harry, a prisoner struggling with mental health problems who got in touch recently after reading one of our written messages, that the Lord will work in his heart and life.

**HMP Kirklevington Grange (North Yorkshire)** – Give thanks for the opportunity we had to take a Christmas service here. Please pray that the message will be used to speak to the men who came along.

The prison is currently without a full-time chaplain, so please pray too for the interviews taking place for a new Church of England chaplain to be shared between HMPs Deerbolt and Kirklevington Grange, that the right person will be found to take up the role.

**Leo** – Please pray for Leo, a prisoner to whom one of Daylight's chaplains has spoken a number of times, and has commented that he finds contact with Christian chaplains helpful. Please pray for future opportunities with him and for the Lord to work in his heart.

**Letter Writing** – Give thanks for the prisoners using our letter writing ministry, many of whom have good questions about spiritual things. Please pray for our volunteers who write to them, that they will be given wisdom as they seek to answer these questions and encourage prisoners to learn what it means to follow Christ.

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**Moses** – Please continue to pray for Moses, who has now been released, that he will go along to a local church he had shown an interest in attending and that the teaching and support he receives there will be helpful to him.

**Prison Restrictions** – Prisons are again seeing an increase in restrictions, with some pausing services and Bible studies for the time being and others returning to a pattern of one wing attending a time, meaning that prisoners are only able to come along once every few weeks. Many prisons are also struggling with low staff morale and high staff absences, meaning that many prisoners are back to spending twenty-three hours a day in their cells.

Please pray for prisoners who will miss being able to attend services and Bible studies each week, that they will be encouraged as they read and study in their cells, and for prison staff in the many challenges they face.

**HMP Swansea (South Wales)** – The increased restrictions mean that we are unlikely to be able to start the planned Christianity Explored course here this month. Please pray that it will not be too long before this can go ahead.

**West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group** – Please pray for the prisons in the area as they move to increased restrictions and particularly for one prison, where a number of men have missed services due to not being unlocked or collected. Please pray that this problem will be overcome and that the reason for it will be solved.

Give thanks that one of the team has been continuing regular one-to-one Bible studies with J. After a visit from a family member recently, he has been reminded of what he is missing outside and seems very depressed. Please pray that his spirits may be lifted, that his interest in God's Word will continue, and that he will be given confidence to attend services and other meetings.

Please also continue to pray that security clearance for the newly appointed Anglican chaplain at one of the prisons will come through speedily so they can begin work.



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