



## Daylight Newsletter August 2022

In recent weeks, it has been lovely to hear from a number of prisoners letting us know how much they appreciate letters they receive from our volunteers, as well as telling us how they have been encouraged by receiving regular written material.

One man, Alfie, who has been receiving our written messages for a few months and now also writes to a couple of our volunteers, wrote saying, *“Of late all and I mean all the loved ones in my life apart from yourselves and my old mum, have sadly given up hope and fallen by the wayside. When I tell myself to write to you with words of thanks, it just never seems to be enough. You guys are my light and I’m so grateful to you all. Thank you all for just being there.”*

Another man, Harry, who struggles with his mental health, often replies to our written material, commenting on how it has arrived at a time when he was finding things particularly difficult. In a recent letter, he wrote, *“Thank you – my faith was sure in need of revival, for I had taken several knock backs to my well-being when your latest letter arrived. The story about Abraham’s servant having faith, and his faith shining through made me cry and my own faith was restored”*.

It was also good to hear news of Gavin who has recently been released. He made a profession of faith shortly before coming to prison and said how helpful he had found the material he received from Daylight during his sentence, sharing that he believed God had done a good work in him through his time in prison.

We give thanks for these encouragements and pray that the Lord will continue to work in the lives of Alfie, Harry and Gavin.

## August Prayer Points

**Aber Conference** – Please pray for David and Hannah with Daylight's stand in the Mission Exhibition at this year's Aber Conference (6th–13th August).

**Chaplains** – Please pray for a number of prison chaplains we work alongside who are facing difficult circumstances at the moment, particularly for one chaplain we have mentioned previously who has now lost two of his sisters within eight months, for another who is facing an extended stay in hospital following cancer surgery, and for a third chaplain who is awaiting a liver transplant. Pray that they will know the Lord's comfort and strength in these difficulties, and for the chaplaincy teams at each of these prisons as they seek to continue to provide support to prisoners during the absence of their colleagues.

**Denny** – Please pray for Denny, an older prisoner who is currently on constant watch due to severe mental health problems. Chaplains are spending time with him each day and he has lots of good questions but says he cannot forgive himself for what he has done and does not seem to be able to see any future. Pray that the chaplains will be given wisdom in these conversations and that the Lord will use this contact to speak to him.

**Development Officer** – Give thanks for the way God has blessed Daylight's work, enabling us to advertise for someone to join our team as a Development Officer. Please pray that the Lord will raise up the right person to take up this role.

**Pete** – Please continue to pray for Pete who is currently awaiting trial. He is attending services regularly, as well as continuing contact with one of our chaplains and a friend who is a pastor. Please pray that the Lord will work in his heart and life.

**HMP Swansea (South Wales)** – Please pray for the plans to start a new *Christianity Explored Prison Edition* course here next month, that the preparations will all go smoothly and that a good number of men will be keen to come along to learn from Mark's Gospel.

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**Tim** – Please pray for Tim, a Christian prisoner who was rescued from a suicide attempt following family problems. Pray that daily contact with his home church will be an encouragement to him.

**HMP Wayland (Norfolk)** – Give thanks that regular opportunities to take Sunday services here have now resumed with a good number of responsive men coming along.

Please pray for N who was recently given a Bible and Gospel leaflet as well as having several conversations with a Christian prisoner on his wing, and for J, who was recently released, having been given a Gideon New Testament and a Gospel leaflet a few days before.

**Wes** – Please pray for Wes, a prisoner who one of our chaplains has had contact with recently. He says he is staying out of trouble and is confident he will go to heaven because of all the good works he is doing. Our chaplain was able to explain to him that the only way to heaven was through Christ, so please pray that this will stay with him and that the Lord will work in his heart.

Pray too for a second prisoner who was listening to this conversation and accepted a copy of John Blanchard's *Ultimate Questions* afterwards, that this will be used to speak to him.

**West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group** – Give thanks for the five men who have been consistent attenders at the *Christianity Explored Prison Edition Course* in HMP Wakefield. They continue to participate enthusiastically and their answers to some of the key questions relating to the Gospel have been very encouraging.

In another prison in the area, the chaplain has asked specifically for prayer for those who have recently left prison or are due to be released soon, that they will not re-offend once back in their old environment.

Please pray for some of the chaplaincy teams who are currently facing a number of challenges, that they will be given wisdom and strength, and for interviews taking place for an Anglican chaplain in one of the prisons, that a person who promotes the Gospel will be chosen.



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