

Daylight Newsletter November 2022

Last month, we shared something of challenges from one of our monthly Bible study groups, where one man had been wanting to take over and others were picking on prisoners from the vulnerable wing. Yet, despite these challenges, our volunteers had still been able to share the Gospel, and the man who had been trying to take over said afterwards that he had really enjoyed the study.

Following the latest session, our volunteers shared that they had a good study, with regular attenders returning, and without the disruptive elements there had been previously. The men listened well, with one requesting a Portuguese Bible and another from the vulnerable wing requesting prayer.

In another prison, it has been encouraging to see new men coming along to the Sunday Services. This has given good opportunities to speak to them and it has been lovely to see some of them also starting to come along to mid-week Bible studies.

One such man, Matt, has recently arrived from another prison. Having become a Christian during his sentence, he is young in his faith and has lots of problems in his background but is keen to grow in grace and his knowledge of Christ. We pray that the current series of studies on the fruit of the Spirit will be helpful to him.

We give thanks for these continued opportunities to open up the Bible with groups of prisoners. Please pray that the Lord will use His Word both to build up those like Matt who are believers, and to challenge others about where they stand spiritually.

November Prayer Points

HMP Bullingdon (Oxfordshire) — Give thanks for opportunities to run monthly Bible studies here. Please pray that these opportunities will continue following expected changes within the chaplaincy team.

Chaplaincy Work — Give thanks for the continued opportunities that chaplaincy work provides to speak to and support individual prisoners. One of our chaplains has recently been able to spend time with two men who have lost loved ones and to share the Gospel with them, with both of them saying they felt better after these conversations. Please pray that the Lord will use this contact to speak to their hearts.

Cheshire Prayer & Support Group — Give thanks that the group have been able to maintain contact with a nearby prison through sending in our regular written messages. Please pray that it will be possible for them to return to running services there soon, and for the group as they make plans to meet to pray together.

George — Give thanks that George continues to enjoy studying Emmaus Bible School courses and is attending Sunday services regularly. Please pray that these will continue to be helpful to him and that he will enjoy his new job in the prison gardens.

Solent Prayer & Support Group — Give thanks for the opportunity the team had to run a service in HMP Ford (West Sussex) at the end of October. Please pray that the message the men heard will be used to speak to them.

HMP Sudbury (Derbyshire) — Give thanks for continued opportunities to run Bible studies here. Numbers have been smaller since the summer break, with some of the regular attenders having left the prison and practical problems in notifying the prisoners that the studies are on each week. Please pray that new prisoners will be keen to come along and that these challenges will be overcome.

HMP Swansea (South Wales) - Please continue to pray for the Christianity Explored Prison Edition course running here and for the men who have been attending regularly. Two of them have just been transferred to another prison, so please pray that what they have

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learned will stay with them, and that they will continue to receive chaplaincy support in their new prison.

Pray too for Zak, a Christian prisoner struggling with mental health issues, and for wisdom with potential management and regime changes in the prison.

HMP Wayland (Norfolk) - Please pray for R, a prisoner who has a wonderful testimony of transforming grace, but now needs to be grounded with a solid foundation of biblical truth.

Pray too for A, an older Christian man who has recently moved to a different prison for health reasons, that a suitable long-term solution will be found to meet his needs.

Please pray for T who has now moved to an open prison but is still in letter contact. He is busy all day now with paid work but is finding this has squeezed out much of his spiritual life.

Please also pray for Peter, a new evangelical volunteer chaplain who is starting to make a real difference in looking after the spiritual needs of the men and opening up possibilities for more Christian activities.

West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group - Give thanks for the fifteen men who attended a service at one of the nearby prisons during Prisons Week. Please pray for the Salvation Army Chaplain there who is in grave need of a liver transplant, and for safety concerns, particularly in relation to viruses spreading among both prisoners and staff.

Please pray for a prisoner who had begun one-to-one Bible studies with one of the team but has recently been transferred to another prison. Praise God that he has contacted the chaplaincy team there for further support with his studies and pray that he will be helped in his desire to know more about God and His Word.

Give thanks that the new Free Church chaplain in another of the prisons has now been able to take up his part time post and that his love for the Lord is apparent. Please pray for him as he settles into this new role.

Two of the team are to shortly meet the Anglican Chaplain in another of the prisons in the area, with a view to restarting monthly Bible studies. Praise God for this.



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