



## Daylight Newsletter September 2023

Regular readers of our newsletters may recall us mentioning Andy, a prisoner who attended one of our services during his first weeks in prison. Soon after, he was moved on to another prison, but kept hold of our Bible Text Postcards, and wrote to let us know that he had some of them displayed in a collage on his cell wall.

Through his family background and then his time in prison, Andy had picked up a mix of ideas from Christianity, Paganism, and Norse Mythology, but told us he was interested in learning more about the Bible. Since the end of last year, we have been sending him regular literature which he has been keen to receive more of, and he has also begun to write to one of our volunteers.

It was encouraging to hear from him again recently, letting us know that he had been enjoying our latest series of written messages, saying, "Thanks so much for your letters on Moses! I watched a film called Exodus on Saturday and got your letter Monday about the same guy! Crazy! I love the way you can always summarise and relate the tellings to me".

He also shared that with the encouragement of our letter writing volunteer, he has started to read his Bible, writing, "I had a Bible here for a keepsake but have started using it more with her suggestions!".

Please pray that as Andy reads through his Bible, the Lord will speak to Him through His Word, and that he will come to trust in Christ as His Saviour. Pray too that the literature we send will help him to understand how God's Word applies to his life today.

## September Prayer Points

**Aber Conference** – Give thanks for an encouraging week at the Aber Conference during August. It was a joy to meet many of you who pray for Daylight regularly, as well as being able to introduce the work to new people, with some keen to support prayerfully and at least one potential new volunteer.

**HMP Bullingdon (Oxfordshire)** – Give thanks that we now regularly get over fifteen men at the monthly Bible studies here. At the last session, there was a real openness to hear the Gospel and several good chats afterwards. One man shared that he had a temper problem, and our volunteer was able to assure him that not only could Christ forgive his past sin, but help him to overcome his temper as well, while two other men with young children were encouraged to see that they would be better fathers and husbands when they returned home if they came to know Christ as their Saviour. Please pray for each of these men.

**Christopher** – Give thanks for Christopher, a prisoner who came to trust in Christ a few years ago. He recently wrote to thank us for our regular written material, saying, “It is a real blessing”, so please pray that this will continue to be an encouragement to him, that he will grow in grace and knowledge of Christ, and that he will be helped to share his faith with others.

**HMP New Hall (West Yorkshire)** – Give thanks that sixteen women attended the last Bible study session here. Please pray that what they heard will be used to speak to them, that they will be keen to come back to the next session, and that others will also begin to attend.

**Nigel Robinson** – Thank you for your prayers for Nigel, our Regional Director for the Midlands, after he fractured his sternum at the end of July. Give thanks that Nigel has been able to take some time away with family during August and is making a good recovery. Please pray for him as he returns to his work in prisons this month.

**HMP Oakwood (Staffordshire)** – Give thanks that the Bible study group here enjoyed their recent studies in John’s Gospel and are keen to continue into Acts. Praise God for raising up a new volunteer to help

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with running these, which has meant that the studies have been able to continue throughout the summer.

**Opportunities** – Praise God for all the opportunities that He gives to us. Please pray that His blessing will be on those we share the Gospel with, both prisoners and prison staff and that they will come to know Christ as their Saviour.

**Supporting Prisoners** – Please continue to pray for Daylight workers in prisons as they face many complex situations with prisoners and staff and seek to offer caring pastoral support. Pray too for our letter writing volunteers and office team, that they will be given wisdom as they have contact with prisoners facing questions around gender-identity, but most of all for the prisoners living with these issues, that they will know that they are precious individuals, created and loved by God.

**HMP Wakefield (West Yorkshire)** – Give thanks for the opportunity to resume monthly Bible studies here, with the first session looking at *Confidence in God*. Please pray for the team as they prepare and run this, and for a good number of men to come along.

Give thanks too for the opportunity to meet with the men who recently completed the *Christianity Explored Prison Edition* course here. Please pray for the presence of the Holy Spirit as the team look at the topic of *Wrong Choices* with them.

**HMP Wealstun (West Yorkshire)** – Give thanks that our involvement here is increasing, with some of the team now able to draw keys.

Please pray for Steve who claims to have no faith, but has signed up for the next *Hope Explored* course, that he will not change his mind about coming, and that the Lord will use this course to speak to him.

**HMP Wayland (Norfolk)** – Please pray for R who was recently released, having taken a Gideon New Testament after a brief conversation with one of our chaplains.

Pray too for S, a Christian struggling with alcohol issues who was recently recalled to prison and is disappointed in himself, and for D, a strong Christian who is due to leave prison this month, keen to make a fresh start after a long sentence.

## News from the Office: Prayer

Spending Friday afternoon at the Aber Conference Mission Exhibition this year was such a blessing to me. A huge thank you to those who have emailed and to the couple who have prayed for this ministry from before it was called Daylight and who returned to the Mission Exhibition just to meet me. You have encouraged me, and I thank God for you.

The privilege and power of prayer are gifts that we must neither neglect nor take lightly and so I am asking if you will join me for a particular period of prayer this month. I will be taking a few days away from the office to pray and seek the LORD before I finalise my vision / strategy which I am due to share with the Trustees later in the month.

You might like to join me on Zoom to pray together. Monday 4th – Wednesday 6th at 7:45pm each evening until 9pm. There will be a brief thought from Scripture and then hopefully a good hour of prayer. For those who can't get online I hope to have some notes prepared in advance that we can send to you by post or email, please contact the office for those. Otherwise the Zoom meeting details are... Meeting ID 889 0522 1733. Passcode 20-365. <https://tinyurl.com/DylghtPryr>



**Vision of Hope** – During our time at the Aber Conference, it was also an encouragement to spend time with friends from Vision of Hope, who offer support to ex-offenders on their farm near Abergavenny, and in particular to meet S, who having become a Christian during his time there, is now beginning theological training. Please pray for them in the valuable work they are doing.

If you would like to support Daylight's work financially, one-off or regular gifts can be made via the 'Donate' tab on our website [daylightcpt.org](http://daylightcpt.org), or call 01245 252735 to make gifts by phone. Cheques made payable to Daylight Christian Prison Trust can be sent to our office address below, and if you would like a Gift Aid or Standing Order Form, please let us know.

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