



"...from darkness to light..."

**Daylight**

christian prison trust



## Daylight Newsletter October 2023

One of our prison teams has recently been encouraged by the change they have seen in Joseph, a prisoner, who was initially reluctant to mix with others. The team began by carrying out one-to-one studies with him in his cell, and it was wonderful to see the way God worked in his heart, with Joseph eventually professing faith in Christ.

He then came along to help during a *Christianity Explored Prison Edition* course, and it was good to see him then begin to attend Sunday worship and midweek meetings on a regular basis. Soon after Joseph also asked to be baptised.

Joseph has now been able to go to a lower security prison, a move that we believe has been made possible because of the change in him since coming to know Christ as his Saviour. Please pray that he will continue to receive support from the chaplaincy team there, and that he will be used by God in his new prison.

It was also good to receive a call a few weeks ago from Will, who having become a Christian earlier in his sentence, is now in an open prison preparing for his release. He wanted to let us know grateful to God he was for Daylight's work, and in particular to thank us for the support he received from one of our volunteer chaplains.

Will has spent his time in prison usefully, completing many correspondence courses from *Emmaus Bible School*, and is beginning to serve using his knowledge and love of mentoring in the local church. Please pray that he will continue to grow in grace and that the Lord will use him to reach others with the Gospel.



## October Prayer Points

**Christian Prisoners** – Give thanks for the opportunities that Christian prisoners have to witness to others on their wings. In one prison, our chaplain has been encouraged to see a Christian prisoner having considerable influence on new inmates; encouraging them to come along to services, and also helping them individually. Having recently been sentenced, there is a possibility he may be moved on, so please pray that he might be able to stay, and that he and other Christian prisoners will be helped as they seek to share their faith with others.

**David** – Give thanks for David, a prisoner who is a professing Christian. Originally from China, he was thrilled when one of our chaplains was able to get a Chinese New Testament and Proverbs for him, together with some other material. Please pray that reading these will be an encouragement to him.

**HMP Leeds (West Yorkshire)** – Give thanks for the nine men who attended the latest Bible study session here. All of them were involved in the session and were particularly moved by the testimony of the newest volunteer to the team.

**HMP Lewes (East Sussex)** – Give thanks for the opportunity to start a new *Christianity Explored Prison Edition* course here this month, and for a number of men who have already expressed interest in attending. Please pray that they will come along, and that the Lord will speak to them as they look at Mark's Gospel together.

Give thanks too for prisoners listening well at a recent Sunday service, with a palpable solemnity and concentration as God's Word was read and preached, and many of them expressing appreciation afterwards.

**Literature** – Give thanks that prisoners continue to request Bibles and other literature, with one of our chaplains reporting that the prison he works in are getting through far larger numbers of Bibles than they have ever known before. Please pray that these will be read, and that the Lord will speak to many through His Word.

**HMP New Hall (West Yorkshire)** – Give thanks that the level of interest

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in spiritual things among the women here continues to be high. Please pray for those being released, that their interest and commitment might continue once back in the outside world.

**HMP Nottingham (Nottinghamshire)** – Give thanks for an encouraging Sunday service here recently, with potential volunteers from a local church coming along for the first time. Please pray that it might be possible to establish a local team to help with future opportunities here.

**HMP Oakwood (Staffordshire)** – Give thanks for continued opportunities to run weekly Bible studies here. Please pray that the current studies in Acts will be a blessing to those who are Christians, and that others attending will be challenged to think about where they stand spiritually.

**Sure of Heaven CDs** – Give thanks that we have recently been able to supply one prison with Sure of Heaven CDs produced by Open Air Mission featuring readings and messages from John's Gospel. Pray that the Lord will use these in the hearts and lives of those who receive them.

**HMP Wakefield (West Yorkshire)** – Give thanks that the team have been able to resume monthly Prayer & Fellowship sessions here. The first session was held earlier in the day than usual due to it being a bank holiday, and was attended by twenty-five men, with plenty of time for refreshments which enabled one-to-one conversations with a good number of them. Please pray that they will be keen to return for the next session.

**HMP Wayland (Norfolk)** – Please pray for T as he comes to the end of a long IPP (Imprisonment for Public Protection) sentence. T has been on a long journey from suicidal despair, to slowly progressing in faith and a new start in life, and is looking forward to seeing his family again, getting involved in a local church, and finding work.

**HMP Wealstun (West Yorkshire)** – Give thanks that being able to draw keys has enabled a couple of the team to spend time on the wings, seeing the men who attended the recent *Hope Explored* course.

Please continue to pray for Steve, a prisoner who has said he has no faith, but is still intending to come along to the next *Hope Explored* course in November.

## News from the Office: Outcomes

My mind has been focussed on outcomes this month. Indeed, what we should pray for and do in October really does depend on the outcome of the board meeting that, as I write, has not yet happened.

As Paul implied in 1 Corinthians 3 sometimes we don't know the outcome, if we only plant the seed and someone else waters then we may not get to see the increase that God gives. And yet sometimes we do, as you can see from the accounts on the front page. Please pray for wisdom in these situations as there are wise boundaries that should not be crossed. Still we want to be able to ensure that one who has been found by the LORD on the inside is also able to meet with His people on the outside and be blessed and a blessing.

Joseph and Will have discovered the Lord's will for them through the study of His Word. It seems wise to me, and I have commended to the Board that we should invest for growth, as the Parable of the Talents teaches. Please pray that we listen to God the Holy Spirit and will "take heed how [we] build" and know best how to "build on this foundation with gold, silver [and] precious stones...". We want there to be more Joseph's and more Will's whether we hear about them this side of Glory or only when we get there.



This month, we are highlighting the work of Emmaus Bible School who produce a variety of correspondence courses, some suitable for those who have little or no Bible knowledge, and others for those who wish to deepen their knowledge of God's Word. Give thanks for the many prisoners who use these, and please pray that the courses will continue to be a blessing to them. [www.emmausuk.com](http://www.emmausuk.com)



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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