

Daylight Christian Prison Trust

Daylight's prison work grew directly out of the diaries distributed by DayOne.

Frequently we are still referred to by prison chaplains and others as 'the people with the diaries' as we continue to build on the excellent foundations that DayOne laid. The last year has seen encouraging developments, and we have seen prisoners converted under Daylight's ministry and built up in their new faith, and also helped Christians who have fallen into sin and ended up inside prison find forgiveness and restoration.

Our approach to prison work is unashamedly Biblical; we constantly find that prisoners want to hear the Word of God, want it brought to bear on their situation – they want the truth, even if this means facing direct and deep challenges to the behaviour which led to their arrest, trial and conviction. For those who keenly feel the rejection of society, separated from their families and away from all the props that people use to get through life, the gospel comes as good news indeed. As a prisoner recently wrote, 'Daylight is doing a fantastic job. There are a lot of lost souls in prison and if it wasn't for Daylight, there'd be a whole lot more.' We run a weekly Bible study for that prisoner and others, one of whom was recently baptised after professing faith.

We have recently been encouraged by a number of answers to prayer; we have new prison opportunities that were not there before, and we have churches and individuals wanting Daylight's help to get involved with prison ministry. We seek to encourage Christians to minister in their nearest prison, providing the training, encouragement and support required, including providing experienced people to lead, preach and teach when necessary to get things started.

Prisoners do get moved around the system and sometimes we meet a prisoner previously encountered elsewhere. Earlier this year we met a prisoner who had been converted in one prison under Daylight's ministry, built up in another by Bible studies undertaken by Daylight's regional director, and here he was in a third prison, pleased that a Daylight Prison Ministry Associate had come in to take a Sunday service in the prison chapel! We are so thankful to God that many prison chaplains welcome Daylight people, even when we differ on the doctrines of salvation. Long may their welcoming attitude continue!



In order to reduce costs the prison service is going through a considerable period of change and prison chaplains are feeling the strain as much as other members of staff. One consequence can be that Bible studies previously held in the evening are no longer possible, as lockup times increase and prisoners cannot get to the chapel. But ways around such difficulties are being found.



One Daylight worker recently emailed her Daylight Prayer & Support Group with encouraging news about how things are going. She ended: 'So, the lesson learnt is: be careful what you pray for because God is more than likely to answer.'

Steven St John
Chief Executive
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