



Daylight Newsletter January 2020

We are thankful for the many opportunities we had to share the Gospel in prisons over the Christmas period, reaching a large number of prisoners and prison staff.

At one Sunday service prisoners heard a message from 2 Corinthians 9:15, thinking about how the greatest gift is God sending His Son into the world to die for sinners. They were reminded that gifts are not something we have to work for but are given freely and were encouraged to think about whether they had each accepted God's gift of salvation.

In another prison, one of our volunteers was encouraged by prisoners asking deep questions, not only about the Christianity Explored course they were doing, but also about a book they had been reading on the Promised Child. One man was wowed by the fact that the prophecies about Christ were so old, yet came true and others in the group all joined in a discussion on this.

At a prison where we run a monthly Bible study we had fewer men than usual in December, but there was a sense that God was really touching their hearts as we looked at the four descriptions of Christ's ministry in Isaiah 9. The men were very open about sin and their need of repentance and it was great to share the peace that comes with forgiveness in Christ alone.

Please pray that something in the messages they heard, in the Carols that were sung or in the literature they were given will be used to speak to the hearts of those who attended these services, Bible studies and courses during December.

January Prayer Points

HMP Chelmsford (Essex) – Please pray that the prison would soon be able to have one service for all the men instead of having to hold a separate service for one of the wings.

Pray too for Jimmy who attends services regularly as he is very depressed at the moment.

HMYOI Deerbolt (County Durham) – Please pray for prisoners, governors and visitors who attended the Carol Service here.

HMP Leeds (West Yorkshire) – Give thanks for a good Bible study here in December, with a number of questions being asked, leading to healthy discussions. Please pray that more will come along as they meet again to study God's Word on **13th January**.

HMP New Hall (West Yorkshire) – Give thanks for the fourteen ladies who attended our last Bible study here. They showed real interest, participated enthusiastically and eight of them asked if they could keep the Bibles that had been taken to the study. Please pray that the meeting on the **30th January** will be similarly blessed.

HMP Parc (South Wales) – Give thanks for new opportunities to work here. Please pray that David would be able to integrate more into the team and for preaching opportunities during this year.

HMP Portland (Dorset) – Praise God for the handful of men who came regularly throughout the Christianity Explored course and gave it careful thought. Please pray that God's truth would impact their lives, especially for **M** who has spent much of his life homeless or in and out of prison, but likes to think seriously about things.

Pray too for guidance about future courses and studies to be undertaken each Tuesday morning.

Scotland – Give thanks for the continued interest and attendance at the present Life Explored course and pray that those who attend will seek the Lord who is gentle and lowly in heart and who provides rest for burdened souls.

Pray too for prisoners who have experienced sadness and loneliness being separated from their families at a time of usual family reunions and for

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the chaplains who ministered to them with the great message of salvation.

Solent Prayer & Support Group – Please pray that the team would be given more opportunities to work in **HMP Ford** during this year and for the potential opportunity to start running services in another local prison.

Pray too for some of the team as they attend a prison training session on **11th January**.

HMP Swansea (South Wales) – Please pray for those being released in the next few weeks who have completed *Christianity, Discipleship and Life Explored* courses.

HMP Usk (South Wales) – Give thanks that the Bible studies here continue to be a profitable time with many searching questions asked and answered. Please pray for prisoners who will be moving on, that they will find those who will continue to feed their interest.

HMP Wakefield (West Yorkshire) – Give thanks that the meetings and discussions with the men continue to be blessed by the Lord. We were able to participate in a number of Christmas activities, which have provided extra opportunities to talk to individuals. Please pray that the six men, one of whom was new, who attended the Prayer & Fellowship Meeting in December will come again on the **13th January**.

HMP Wayland (Norfolk) – Give thanks for the opportunity we had to lead a Sunday service here at the end of December. Please pray for the prisoners that came.

Pray too for the one-to-one Bible studies held here each Wednesday morning. This work has been helpful in making real progress with individuals, pitched at the level appropriate to their particular needs. Other volunteers are also conducting group Bible studies with a good number together each week.

Please also pray for **S** who has been a Christian for many years, that he will be delivered from feelings of depression and that progress will be seen in the work with ex-offenders at House of Genesis (a local Christian charity providing a home for ex-offenders).

West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group – Give thanks that the newest member of the group has just completed the Induction Training Programme at a local prison. Please pray for him as he begins his visits there in the very near future.

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