

DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

SUNDAY

Please pray for the Trustees of Emmaus who give their time and energy, that they will be given wisdom in their decisions.

MONDAY

Please pray for our students—that they will have a real desire to live out what they learn.

TUESDAY

Pray that God will give clear guidance in the day to day running of Emmaus.

WEDNESDAY

Pray for the various centres around the country, and for the contacts they have via post and radio.

THURSDAY

Pray for wisdom as we add more courses and revise some of our existing ones.

FRIDAY

Give thanks for the support we receive from our volunteer workers.

SATURDAY

Pray for our prison ministry that many spiritual needs may be met in 2017.

EMMAUS PREMISES

We still have a large room available for lease. It would be good to have another Christian organisation make use of it.

Please pray about this and get in touch with us if you or anyone you know, is interested.

NEW MARKERS

We are thankful to the Lord for the responses to our request for more markers.

If this is a work you would like to be part of please let us know.

NEW YEAR

We trust that all our supporters and prayer partners will know the presence and peace of God in the days that lie ahead.

By the Way

Emmaus Bible School

January 2017

News : Prayer Points : Items of Interest



"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1.1

Life is full of beginnings. We are now at the beginning of a new year. But here is a beginning that carries our thoughts back beyond all years, all dates of history, all imaginable periods of time, beyond the beginnings of creation. There Christ was; the eternally existing One. What a wonderful truth concerning Him who is our Saviour. We cannot grasp the thought, but we can find security and comfort when we rest in Him as our hope and salvation. We know that from eternity to eternity He is the same, and therefore our confidence is for ever sure and strong.

Earthly trusts are never secure, for everything human is mortal; but those who commit themselves to the keeping of our Lord Jesus Christ are safe for ever. It is very comforting to think not only of Christ's deity but also of His humanity. This brings Him near to us because He became like us with tender sympathies and warm affections. We read the gospels and learn of His gracious character as seen in His compassion, His tears, His love. Then when we know that behind these qualities are the Divine attributes, that He is very God, what great confidence it gives us. Let us set this glorious truth at the gate of this New Year; it is a high point from which to start.

EMMAUS CONFERENCE

We propose, in the will of the Lord, to hold another Conference from Monday 25th to Wednesday 27th of September this year at the same venue as in 2015, namely The Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 1AU.

At this stage we would like to have some idea of how many are interested in joining us. Please let us know by contacting the office as soon as possible. The cost will be about £150.

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PRISON WORK

The beginning of this year saw us sending out over 100 promotional packs to those prisons in the UK that we currently have no regular students in. Prior to this we had received favourable support from the Prison Chaplaincy service who had allowed us to write an article outlining the work of Emmaus amongst the prison population. This was published in mid December and prompted several individual prison chaplains that we had never heard from before to contact us. These, along with every other prison where we do not have regular students will have received a parcel containing our introductory course, and a range of follow on courses.

By doing this we hope to generate a lot more interest amongst prisoners to study the word of God for themselves. Time is one commodity that they do have. We are doing this because we very much feel that it is only by the life transforming power of the Gospel that these lives can be truly and permanently changed—from unprofitable to profitable, in the same way that Onesimus was changed. We read about him in the letter that Paul wrote to Philemon. Please pray earnestly and daily that God would cause a real revival amongst the prison population that would be a real testimony to His power and glory. We can sow, and water but it must be God who gives the increase in all that we do for Him.

We are always very thankful for the support that we are given that enables us to undertake a work like this. Those who give their time to come in to help with jobs like this, or to help with the marking are very much those who keep the work of Emmaus going. If our recent expansion in our prison ministry bears fruit then we will still need more help in marking. I do not think I would be any good at face to face prison visiting, but I can mark their work and offer Bible based advice from my own home. How about you?

Jonathan

FROM HMP DOWNVIEW

"I have been involved in prison ministry for a number of years as a Chaplain in HMP Holloway and now in HMP Downview. It was at the request of one of the prisoners that I've got in contact with Emmaus Bible School. Since that time I have encouraged prisoners to get to know God's word while in prison. The courses are ideal as prisoners can engage in the course in their own time as they are usually busy with other education courses or work.

Prisoners have been very grateful for the courses and they have learned a lot. It's always a joy delivering the marked studies over the years to the ones doing the courses, and see the joy that it brings to their lives as they see their certificates.

It is testimony for them that God has not forgotten and is teaching them new things through His word even while they are in prison. As I visit prisoners time and time again, I have opportunities to inspire those who know very little about the word of God and for those would like to go deeper.

They give thanks to God for getting to know Him better through His word - His word that speaks about love and forgiveness and purpose for their lives. Many of those prisoners who have done the course have been released or transferred and it is always my prayer that the seed planted in their hearts may continue to grow in their hearts and transform their lives and their communities. A big thanks to the ones doing the marking as the prisoners have appreciated their little comments and words of encouragements."

Lucy Merino

STUDENTS' COMMENTS

Christine—a 3 year Bible study student. 'I was encouraged to receive such a high mark for Romans as I really struggled at times to understand what was being taught. I am much encouraged by the studying of God's word and am finding all the courses extremely helpful. The 3 year Bible study course has been a real eye-opener how to go about studying God's word.'

Martin—a recent volunteer recruit. 'Emmaus has played a significant part in my life and has helped equip me for a preaching ministry. I still have and use a shelf full of EBS courses. They have provided me with a solid grounding in the Word.'

Basil—having completed Jonah—the God of the second chance. 'This course has really helped my understanding about Jonah—no minister ever gives a sermon on Jonah—we were only taught about him at Sunday School. There are many books of the Bible we don't hear about today. This is a very good and instructive study. Thankyou'

Pamela. 'After reading your letter I asked my friend if she would like to start studying a course with Emmaus. I introduced her to church in 2012. Please will you send her "The woman who pleases God and she will give it a try.

Editors note—Pamela has also started a small group study for friends using an Emmaus course as the basis for study. It is always good to hear of different ways in which you can use Emmaus courses. We recently moved house and left one for the new owners. Who knows how God will use what is done for Him?