

# Prayer Letter

## May 2022

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### Mark 1v35

**“Rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed, went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed.”**

As we read Mark’s Gospel, we get a sense of the busyness and breathless pace of days in the life of the Lord Jesus. With all that was going on, his priority was clear. He says (in v38): “let us go on to the next towns, that I might preach there also, for that is why I came.” With this focus, he then made time for people (eg vv23, 31, 40) and he made time for prayer (v35). As the intensity of preparations for the summer increases, we need to remember our focus in proclaiming Christ and remember that i) people are more important than programmes and ii) prayer is absolutely vital. For Jesus, there was a disciplined, determined and sacrificial approach to prayer.

### UBM’s next online prayer meeting

There will be a short prayer meeting (on Zoom) from **8:30am to 9:00am** on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May.

The login details are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83470410489?pwd=WjZqZU5vcGhJVWpHVFAwLy9vMnhjQT09>

Meeting ID: **834 7041 0489** / Passcode: **UBMprayer**

It is good to be able to report on our first 4 missions. Cheltenham is a new opportunity for this year and we were unable to run the Montreux Polymanga, Mulhouse and Llandudno Victorian Extravaganza missions in 2020 and 2021.

### An Encouragement



It is always a thrill to get messages like the following:

*“Last year I was in Chester and met some of your team who were talking about God’s word. One guy spoke to me and handed me a John’s Gospel. I used to attend church and had felt like I had slipped away. He said he would pray). Within two weeks, I met a Christian who is now one of my closest friends. He and his family have welcomed me and been very supportive of my questions. Since then i’ve found a church within walking distance, have picked up my Bible and continue to learn in God’s ways.*

*So this is a message to your work - whenever you doubt the impact you have - whether*

*people ignore you in the street or you don’t feel like you’re making a difference, you are!*

*Had I not have stumbled across you, I would never be where I am. Prayers are answered and your work is worthwhile.*

*So from me to you, thank you for what you have been doing to spread the Word.” **Please pray for:***

- this particular person to grow as a Christian.
- more stories like this – even if we don’t find out about them until months later (or even at all!).

## SUNDAY prayer points

### Montreux (Tim Howlett)



A record 50,000 people attended the Polymanga festival over Easter weekend. It is quite likely that all of them walked past the Bible kiosk. With the other tourists (maybe the same number again), there was a constant stream of people who stopped to buy souvenirs, browse the book tables, answer the ‘question of the day’, put a pin in the world map, look at the pop-up posters and ask for a helium filled balloon. The team (made up of UBMers and local Christians) had loads of conversations. There are too many to list but **please pray for:**

- each person who took a Bible (around 150-200 were given way over the 4 days).
- every person who has some interaction with the team (possibly about 1,000 people).
- a lady who had fled Ukraine who was shown John 3:16. She asked: “is it really as simple as that?”
- a muslim man who said: “I want to find out more about Jesus.”
- a teenager who is probably saved. He is concerned for his family and friends but doesn’t have much/any support.
- a Jew who genuinely wanted to know “the continuation of the story.”
- a Greek man and his Italian wife who were going to read the Bible together and talk about it.
- the planning for the 2 weeks of mission at the start of July for the jazz festival.
- the ongoing work of the Bible kiosk between now and then.

## MONDAY prayer points

### Coming Up



**Please pray for:**

- the London mission which runs from June 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>.
- the English and Welsh Management Group meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- the Executive Committee meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>.
- the training day in Leicester (for experienced UBMers) on May 14<sup>th</sup>.
- the Christian Answer Management Group meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

## TUESDAY prayer points

*We appreciate your prayers. We also publish a daily prayer point through PrayerMate. Why not subscribe?*

In association with Young Life (NYLC)  
United Beach Mission Trust is a registered charity (no: 273912)

## Mulhouse (Hicham / Jonathan Robinson)



As an 'Avancer' mission, we were working alongside the local church doing door to door, market, literature and children's evangelism. Like all the specific mission reports, we only have space to mention a few people for prayer. There were many more! **Praise the Lord for:**

- the enthusiastic participation by local church members.
- new families with no previous church connection at a dinosaur-themed children's event.
- many leaflets given out and conversations throughout the week both on the street and from door-to-door and at the two events in the church.

- great attendance both in the church and on the live stream at a creation meeting given by a reputable scientist.

### **Please pray for:**

- a lady who saw meeting the team as an answer to prayer after crying in the morning because of her life's mess and praying that God would help her. Her partner has been in and out of prison and told us that he keeps trying to do better but is struggling. Please pray that they would find Christ, the only solution to their problems.
- a nominal Muslim who was met during door-to-door. He invited us into his house and asked us to come back.
- team member who is following up the above contacts.
- a Muslim who gave us his phone number so that he could receive Bible lessons in his local African language.
- the follow-up follow-up and spiritual appetite of all those who came along to the children's and science events.

# WEDNESDAY

prayer points

## Cheltenham (Vinny Commons / Tim Howlett)



2 dry but cold days saw many encouragements, good conversations and seemingly significant encounters at our new pilot mission in Cheltenham. People listened at the open air, looked at the book table and engaged with the Question of the Day. **Please pray for:**

- a Thai man who spoke at length to two team members. He took several books.
- a man who has Christian friends and has been thinking seriously during the covid crisis.
- a lady whose sister is a believer and has been urging her to consider Christ. She spoke at length at

both the book table and the OA site. Her daughter has cancer. See took books for herself and her daughter.

- a man who described himself as a truth-seeker. He knew that there must be a God. He wanted to know more.
- a man who genuinely wanted to know the difference between Christianity and other religions. He listened intently.
- a man who was quite aggressive but came back later to apologise.
- a man returning to Budapest later that day who appreciated the free literature.
- an Eritrean refugee who was invited to the church's international breakfast.
- a lady who had just come straight from her father's funeral and said "there must be something more to life". Her partner had put a red ball (no to the question "Is Jesus relevant today?") and walked on. She comes back and picks 3 (!!) green balls (yes) in the box. She definitely wants more literature sent and to keep in touch.
- the host church who were generous in their hospitality, got involved and want to reach out to people in the town.

# THURSDAY

prayer points

## Llandudno Victorian Extravaganza (Steve Taylor / Dave Ainscough)



After 2 years of the Extravaganza not running, there was certainly a buzz with many visitors coming to enjoy the festival. Although a smaller team than in previous years, we were still able to operate both the open air work on the prom and our stall in the town centre. At the stall we had a "Question of the day", Victorian quiz on our open air board (leading to the offer of the "Can I be sure of going to heaven?" tract) and a free books table. We were delighted to have a Ukrainian family join with us

for the Real Lives event on the Saturday evening. **Give thanks for:**

- the amount of meaningful conversations as well as the significant amount of literature and tracts given away (around 100 Gospels and New Testaments, 1500+ tracts, 50+ books and 100 Gospel bracelets). In particular, **Please pray for:**
- three young Muslim boys who listened closely as a team member read and explained John 1. They left with Gospels.
- a girl who had professed faith on a beach team but had subsequently wandered away, feeling that God was no longer hearing her prayers, her and her boyfriend were keen to read John's Gospel together.
- a Jewish family (a Rabbi in Israel) who engaged with a discussion on creation and then listened as the Gospel was explained.
- a man looking for hope after losing his mum in tragic circumstances. He left with a Gospel and requested details of a local church.
- 3 lads who came to the Real Lives event. They left after a short while because it wasn't what they thought but had a lengthy conversation asking many searching questions. This included what grace meant, having heard it mentioned in the talk.
- a family with believing parents. 12 years ago they left their church in much pain. Pray that they would return.
- Some needy older people who asked for prayer on the prom and were prayed with by a team member
- a girl who has a Christian school friend in school who witnesses to her. She listened again to the Gospel. Give thanks for her friend.

# FRIDAY

prayer points

## Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous  
LANCASHIRE

We've run out of space – but here a couple of other **prayer points:**

- ongoing recruitment for the summer.
- production of the Beach Special magazines (E&W and Irish versions)

# SATURDAY

prayer points