

but went on to provide an escape route from his father's arch enemy that saved David's life (see 1 Samuel 20).

Can you imagine what his immediate family would have done to him when they found out? Can you imagine the level of psychological, emotional, and possible financial upset such a betrayal could have caused in the royal court? However, this choice provided the unique opportunity for a covenant of friendship and peace to be established between Jonathan and David that led to the restoration of the dignity of a disabled and abandoned grandson of Saul Mephibosheth ( 2 Samuel 9:1-17;28).

Due to Jonathan making this selfless choice, Saul's lineage was preserved. I wonder what choices each of us are being called to make that require authenticity and giving up privileges and opportunities for personal advancement for justice and equality to be upheld?

Prayer.

Almighty God, thank you that in you everyone has a special place in your grand scheme of life. You do not call us into the unhealthy and damaging competition but to seek the good of others. Equip us every day to be selfless and authentic, seeking only what empowers others to fulfil their destiny in Christ and to work towards a just and equally enhanced society even as we wait for the return of Jesus Christ our LORD and Saviour.

Amen.



**C.Eva Manley**

**GMCC Volunteer**

Contact us at: GMCC Methodist Central Buildings Oldham Street M1 1JQ

Telephone: 0161 236 2462 Email: [chaplain@gmcconline.org](mailto:chaplain@gmcconline.org)

Please make cheques payable to: **GM Prison Prayer**  
and state if you would like to **Gift Aid it**

**Check out our Facebook Page or [www.gmccsupport.org](http://www.gmccsupport.org)**

**HMP MANCHESTER; HMP FOREST BANK; HMP BUCKLEY HALL;  
HMP & YOI STYAL; HMP YOI THORN CROSS & HMP HINDLEY**

**GREATER MANCHESTER COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY**

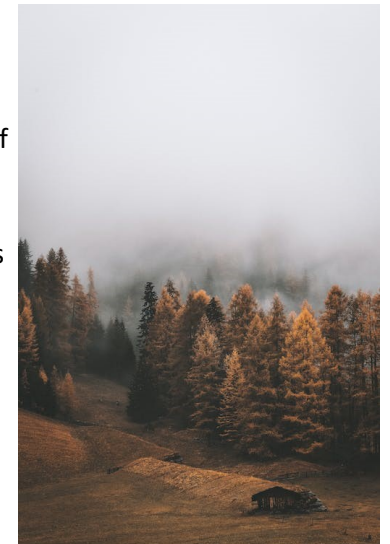
**PRISON PRAYER LETTER OCTOBER 2023**

*This Prayer Letter article has been written by Eva, a longstanding volunteer & befriender at GMCC.*

October is usually a pleasant month for me with the leaves turning golden, the change of our summertime (on the last Sunday) the nights drawing in and a noticeable reduction of daylight. All pointing to a season that has come to be one of my best times of the year...Winter!!!! It sounds funny that someone like me originally from a Tropical Climatic zone looks forward to the end of the heat waves to a much colder time of the year. Think about what you look forward to that could be considered unique and or out-of-character/ expectations?

The Bible is full of stories of individuals whose preferences and choices went totally against societal expectations. This gives me so much encouragement to continue being my unique self.

The story of Jonathan and David gives a clear example of how to remain authentic, there is a choice to be made that could go against normal and societal expectations. According to traditions Jonathan, being the eldest son of his father King Saul, was set to become the second king of Israel at the passing of his father Saul. Like our now king Charles, he was brought up with that knowledge and all the preparations for royal succession. One cannot understand how Jonathan could give up his birthright to the perceived arch enemy of his father, David. Jonathan did not just accept orders to stand down,



## OCTOBER 2023

- 1 Pray For B who struggles with day to day interactions , pray for the right support and no anxiety
- 2 Pray for E who is waiting on a miracle, pray for favour and peace in the waiting
- 3 Pray for D who is recovering after a long illness, pray for strength and continued resilience
- 4 Pray for the Navigating Trauma Course that starts at GMCC today, pray that all involved are open and attentive with open hearts and compassion
- 5 Pray for L who is hoping for a new job, pray that the right thing comes along and he is able to change his life for the better
- 6 Pray for F who was recently diagnosed with cancer, pray for hope and healing as he receives treatment
- 7 Pray for A who has recently left prison, pray for the right support and a good encouraging network of people
- 8 Pray for C who has lost a job and is struggling with money, pray for the right intervention and support
- 9 Pray for A who suffers with anxiety, pray for peace and healing
- 10 Pray for R who struggles with thoughts of the past and old trauma, pray for hope and healing
- 11 For s who had an operation cancelled, pray for quick intervention so he can move forward with his life
- 12 Pray for R who is trying to get things in order so he can function well outside of prison, pray for wisdom and support
- 13 Pray for P who is looking for new community and hope after family breakdowns, pray for provision
- 14 Pray for C who is currently trying to restore family relationships, pray for restoration and peace going forward
- 15 Pray for R who has made a number of life choices that could go either way, pray for wisdom and understanding as they continue on this journey
- 16 Pray for GMCC as the staff and volunteers consider new ways to help those leaving prison

## OCTOBER 2023

- 17 Pray for C who is struggling with addiction after a loss
- 18 Pray for the Chaplain and one of our volunteers as they represent GMCC at the Community Chaplaincy Association meeting today, pray for the formation of fruitful relationships
- 19 Pray for K, a faithful GMCC volunteer, pray for continued strength and provision as they work so generously
- 20 Pray for G who spreads the gospel within prison walls, pray for continued zeal and strength
- 21 Pray for GMCC's mental health sessions, pray that the participants are blessed and that the staff/volunteers facilitate well
- 22 Pray for A, who's father is ill, pray for God's protection and wisdom as his family navigate this difficult period
- 23 Pray for M who is looking for a new job, pray for wisdom and favour in the process
- 24 Pray for T who recently lost his mother, pray for comfort and support during this difficult time
- 25 Pray for S who has a number of doctors appointment and treatments, pray that the plan in place works and God heals him
- 26 Pray for HMP Styal as they have started the Sycamore Tree course, pray that the course content resonates with the women and there is deep change
- 27 Pray for M who's son is waiting to be sentenced, pray for healing for the family and change for the future
- 28 Pray for C who is eager to hear more about God and the Bible, pray he receives the message and understands God's love
- 29 Pray for A who has been struggling with relationships with family and friends, pray for understanding and peace
- 30 Pray for T who is waiting for an appeal, pray for favour and justice in the process
- 31 Pray for I who recently became a Christian, pray for continued encouragement and growing faith