

Was God already preparing a way out of prison for Peter in Acts 12, and the church simply prayed in alignment with God's will, or was God's rescue of Peter motivated by the people coming together in corporate prayer for a fellow believer?

Share an encouraging testimony of how you've seen God answer your prayers much more quickly than you expected, or in a way you could never have imagined (or both).

**Prayer**

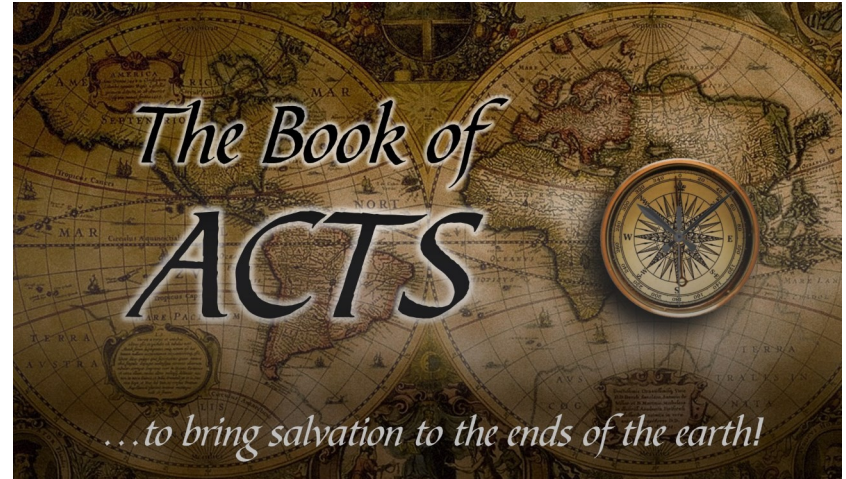
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**April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 - Acts, Part 18**

Scripture References  
Acts 12 • Phil. 4:6 • Mark 10:39 • Romans 8:28

- 1 It's truly a gift from God to be able to grow in faith within a \_\_\_\_\_ of people who love us through those experiences.
- 2 The reality that painful \_\_\_\_\_ may come is one that all Christians must face.
- 3 Accepting that we don't have all of the answers in life should motivate us to lean on God and take our concerns to Him in \_\_\_\_\_.

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- 4 We can recognize the importance of prayer because God's word tells us to pray without \_\_\_\_\_ and to pray in \_\_\_\_\_ situation.
  
- 5 The angel of the Lord freeing Peter from prison was a \_\_\_\_\_ that only a sovereign God could accomplish.
  
- 6 God's sovereignty is a natural consequence of His being all-knowing, all-powerful, and \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 7 Man-made kingdoms will come and go, but God's kingdom will rule and reign \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 8 We can find great encouragement in the fact that God is \_\_\_\_\_ over all of creation and all outcomes.



### **Small Group Discussion Questions**

Please try to think these over and jot down some

Read Mark 10:35-39. In light of what we read about the apostle James (the son of Zebedee) being killed in Acts 12:2, how does this section of Mark sit with you?

What lessons can be learned about the apostle James being killed, but Peter being freed from prison by an angel of the Lord? What does it mean to you that God is Sovereign over the outcomes of his people?

Looking at Acts 12:15, what do you think the people in Mary's house meant when they said, "It is his [Peter's] angel"? Can you find other bible passages that may support your thoughts?

Continued on reverse.