

First Baptist Church – Odessa

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: _____

“The Power of a Praying Church”

21 Days of Prayer and Fasting – Pt. 3

Acts 12:1-19 & Selected

When a Crisis Occurs...

I. God has not been caught by _____.

“About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword.” Vs. 1-2

“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable.” Isaiah 40:28

II. It often gets _____ before it gets better.

“And when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people.” Vs. 3b-4

III. A _____ must arise!

“So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.” Vs. 5

The Church Arose in Prayer...

1. Because a _____ crisis lay before them.

2. Because there was no _____ solution available.

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.” Psalm 20:7

3. As a _____ body praying together.

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

Acts 2:42

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Matthew 18:20

4. To cry out to the only One _____ enough to help.

"The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe." Proverbs 18:10

5. To _____ request His intervention in the crisis.

"You do not have, because you do not ask." James 4:2b

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7

IV. God often _____ behind the scenes while we pray.

"When Peter came to himself, he said, 'Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.'" Vs. 11

V. God's plans for deliverance can happen _____ our doubt and unbelief.

"They said to her, 'You are out of your mind.' But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, 'It is his angel!'" Vs. 15

VI. God receives all glory as the victory is told to _____ the church!

"But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had brought him out of prison. And he said, 'Tell these things to James and to the brothers.' Then he departed and went to another place." Vs. 17