



PREPARATION FOR *POWER*

It was Moses' practice to take the Tent of Meeting and set it up some distance from the camp. Everyone who wanted to make a request of the Lord would go to the Tent of Meeting outside the camp. Whenever Moses went out to the Tent of Meeting, all the people would get up and stand in the entrances of their own tents.

(Exodus 33:7-9 NLT)

They would all watch Moses until he disappeared inside. As he went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and hover at its entrance while the Lord spoke with Moses.

(Exodus 33:7-9 NLT)

So the whole community of Israel left Moses and returned to their tents. All whose hearts were stirred and whose spirits were moved came and brought their sacred offerings to the Lord.

(Exodus 35:20-21)

Then the cloud covered the  
**Tabernacle**, and the glory of the  
Lord filled the Tabernacle.

(Exodus 40:34 NLT)

Then Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting, and when they came back out, they blessed the people again, and the glory of the Lord appeared to the whole community.

(Leviticus 9:23-24 NLT)

Fire blazed forth from the Lord's presence and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When the people saw this, they shouted with joy and fell face down on the ground.

(Leviticus 9:23-24 NLT)

Prayer always precedes power.



About that time King Herod Agrippa began to persecute some believers in the church. He had the apostle James (John's brother) killed with a sword. When Herod saw how much this pleased the Jewish people, he also arrested Peter. (This took place during the Passover celebration.)

(Acts 12:1-3 NLT)

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(Acts 12:1-3 NLT)

So Peter was kept in prison but **earnest prayers** for him was made to God by the **church**.

(Acts 12:5 ESV)

# 3 THINGS THAT HAPPEN WHEN THE CHURCH PRAYS:

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## ONE:

When the church prays,  
miracles happen.

Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, **Peter was sleeping** between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison.

(Acts 12:6-11 NLT)

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the **chains fell off his hands**. And the angel said to him, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals."

(Acts 12:7-9 NLT)

And he did so. And he said to him,  
“Wrap your cloak around you and follow  
me.” And he went out and followed him.  
He did not know that what was being  
done by the angel was real, **but thought  
he was seeing a vision.**

(Acts 12:7-9 NLT)

When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. **It opened for them of its own accord**, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him.

(Acts 12:10 NLT)



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.”

(Acts 12:11 NLT)

When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where **many were gathered together and were praying.** And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer.

(Acts 12:12-17 ESV)

Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that Peter was standing at the gate.

(Acts 12:12-17 ESV)

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!”

(Acts 12:12-17 ESV)

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(Acts 12:12-17 ESV)

But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed. But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, "Tell these things to James and to the brothers." Then he departed and went to another place.

(Acts 12:12-17 ESV)

# 3 THINGS THAT HAPPEN WHEN THE CHURCH PRAYS:

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## TWO:

When the church prays,  
God does more than we ask.

Now to him who is able to do  
**immeasurably more** than all we  
ask or imagine, according to his  
power that is at work within us,

(Ephesians 3:20 NIV)



Immediately an angel of the Lord **struck him down**, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.

(Acts 12:23 ESV)

But seek first the kingdom of  
God and his righteousness, and  
**all these things will be added to  
you.**

(Matthew 6:33 ESV)

# 3 THINGS THAT HAPPEN WHEN THE CHURCH PRAYS:

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## THREE:

When the church prays,  
the church grows.

But the word of God increased  
and multiplied.

(Acts 12:24 ESV)

Meanwhile, the ministry of God's  
Word grew by **leaps and bounds**.

(Acts 12:24 MSG)