

THE POWER OF A PRAYING CHURCH

Acts 12:1-18

Introduction

In this week's lesson, Satan is striking back against the church, and the church is reacting in the only way they can: in prayer. We will learn how powerful the prayers of a church family can be.

Scripture for study

Sermon Text- Acts 12:1-18

Unanswered Prayer- James 4:3

Message Outline

Prayer- The Secret Weapon of the Church (Acts 12:1-5)

Prayer Unleashes the Limitless Power of God (v6-11)

How God Answers Prayer (v12-18)

Three Guiding Principles:

- God Is Sovereign
- God Is Good
- Our Prayers Often Reflect Our Spiritual Maturity

Discussion Questions

1. Is there a particular principle, truth, or occurrence that has stuck with you during our study of the book of Acts? Share with the group.

2. Of all the spiritual disciplines, prayer might be the most difficult to understand and master for most people. Why do you think that is?

3. When it comes to prayer, would you rather pray alone and in private, or with a group of people? Why?

4. Do you believe that praying in a group is any more effective than praying privately? Why?

5. Has God ever said no to one of your prayers, and later you found out that it was for the best? Share what happened.

Review and Reflection

There's power in a praying church, and there's extra power in praying churches that come together and go to war for the souls and needs of people. I've (Pastor George) been praying that this is the kind of church you want to belong to, and that God would move all of us to pray more. When we pray, God hears and God answers.