

Connect Group Guide: “Earnest Prayers Answered” | Acts: Part 16



Passage: Acts 12:1-19

Sermon Link: [Earnest Prayers Answered | Acts: Part 16](#)

Welcome:

(Choose a question for your group to discuss)

- Have you ever had a really big prayer answered? Please share...

Worship:

(You may choose to use YouTube or other mediums to facilitate your time of worship)

- [Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe - Christ Be Magnified \(Church Stream\)](#)

Word:

(Discuss these questions in your group, encourage everyone to take part)

Before reading the scripture:

- Do you believe God answers every prayer? Why?
- What has been your experience with the ‘spiritual realm’?

Read: Acts 12:1-19

- Peter was asleep the night before he was due for an unfair public trial which likely would have cost him his life. Why do you think he was so relaxed?
How does it speak to us finding peace in the midst of persecution?

- The church earnestly prayed for Peter in prison. Why do you think God tells us to pray for others?

Do you believe prayer makes a difference? Why?

- People were praying, but did not believe Rhoda when she said Peter was at the door. Do you pray expectantly for your prayers to be answered?

Why are we sometimes surprised when God answers our prayers?

- Have you ever felt like prayer was a last resort instead of the first priority?

Why do we fall into this trap sometimes?

- Herod did all that he could to prevent Peter from escaping and stopping the gospel from advancing but God sent an angel to ruin both plans.

Do you truly believe that God has the authority over all spiritual beings?

How does this affect your life?

Works:

(Take some time for personal reflecting on the following questions and then share back with the group)

- Who are you earnestly spending time in prayer for? Who do you feel called to pray for more?
- How can you encourage someone with a story of answered prayer this week?

Closing:

(Remember to ask for prayer requests.)

- Pray that God may intervene in our lives and use scenarios that look hopeless to bring the good news of Jesus to the forefront.

