

Digging Deeper: Acts 12:1-25

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Day 1

Read through and pray over Acts 12:1-25

Acts 12:1-5: King Herod Agrippa was seeking to attack those who belonged to the church. He had James killed and now he has captured Peter with plans to do the same. In response to King Herod's actions the church prayed earnestly for Peter. As we begin this chapter, consider what is your response to events in life. Whether personal or worldwide events, positive or negative events, how do you respond? Are you praying just to get through or praying through life?

Day 2

Acts 12:6-11: An angel awoke Peter and rescued him from prison. Peter assumed this was all in his head and he couldn't imagine how he could actually escape prison surrounded by guards. However upon further review, Peter realized this was real. He came to his senses and recognized what God had done. Have you come to your senses? When you look at your life and all the obstacles you have faced, the pain you have endured through, the problems you thought were going to break you, have you come to your senses and realized it was the Lord who rescued you? Take time today to reflect.

Day 3

Acts 12:12-15: When Peter arrived at the home of Mary, those that were gathered in prayer for Peter did not think it was possible that Peter could be at the door. They said well it must be his angel. These are the same people of the church who were praying earnestly after Peter was captured. In fact they were gathered at Mary's house to pray for Peter, yet they found it hard to believe that their prayers were answered. Read Matthew 7:7-8. Prayer and faith should lead to positive expectations. Pray today and everyday not just with the notion that God can do it but also with positive expectations.

Day 4

Acts 12:16-17: Once Peter recognized God's favor and blessing, he knew he had to tell others and spread the word of God's goodness. Peter was directed true north and knew his testimony was to be shared with all who would hear it. If you are a believer in Christ, your life experiences, your path to Christ and how he reveals himself to you is a testimony. It is the witness of your relationship with Christ. Peter gave his testimony and continued on to other places. What is your testimony? Who have you shared your testimony with? Who will you go to next?

Day 5

Acts 12:18-23: King Herod accepted the worship from the people of Tyre and Sidon. He received unworthy recognition and failed to give glory to God. Read James 4:10 and Psalms 20:7. As others look to praise you and give you glory be sure to humble yourself and redirect the praise to Jesus Christ, the giver of all good things (James 1:17).

Day 6

Acts 12:24-25: King Herod was struck down because he did not give glory to God. But the very next verse starts with a transition "but" or "meanwhile". The word of God continued to grow and spread. Take time to give God thanks that his word will continue to grow and spread regardless of our actions or inactions. Pray that you would join God and that your life would point true north to Him.