

The Power of Prayer

Acts 12:5-19

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Prayer _____ that hold us.

Prayer _____ when we don't know
the way.

Prayer _____ of the enemy.

Prayer _____ in times of distress.

Prayer _____ even when
we don't expect them.

Prayer _____ to the enemy.

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Acts 12:5-19

Acts 12:5 - 19 (NIV)

So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

Then the angel said to him, "Put on your clothes and sandals." And Peter did so. "Wrap your cloak around you and follow me," the angel told him. Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it.

When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, "Now I know without a doubt that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were anticipating." When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were praying.

Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer the door. When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!" "You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel." But Peter kept on knocking, and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished.

Peter motioned with his hand for them to be quiet and described how the Lord had brought him out of prison. "Tell James and the brothers about this," he said, and then he left for another place. In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed. Then Herod went from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there a while.

Prayer **BREAKS THE BONDS** that hold us.

Romans 6:17 - 18 (NLT)

Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you wholeheartedly obey this teaching we have given you. Now you are free from your slavery to sin, and you have become slaves to righteous living.

Prayer **GIVES GUIDANCE** when we don't know the way.

Proverbs 1:5 (NLT)

Let the wise listen to these proverbs and become even wiser. Let those with understanding receive guidance

Prayer CONQUERS THE CAPTIVITY of the enemy.

Ephesians 5:11 - 14 (TMSG)

Don't waste your time on useless work, mere busywork, the barren pursuits of darkness. Expose these things for the sham they are. It's a scandal when people waste their lives on things they must do in the darkness where no one will see. Rip the cover off those frauds and see how attractive they look in the light of Christ.

*Wake up from your sleep,
Climb out of your coffins;
Christ will show you the light!*

Prayer GRANTS GLADNESS in times of
distress.

Prayer RESPONDS WITH RESULTS even
when we don't expect them.

Prayer DELIVERS DEFEAT to the enemy.

SO WHAT?

*What are you expecting
God to do you your life?*

*What are we expecting
God to do in our church?*

*The Power of Prayer
Acts 12:5-19*
