TRUTH The Early Church - Acts



Victory in Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: "But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians 15:57



ACTS 12:1-5 Hatred for Christ's Disciples

- 1. Acts is all about the start and spread of the "church." What exactly is the church? See definition on the Scripture page.
- 2. How did King Herod Agrippa show his hatred for the church? Who was he trying to impress?
- 3. How did the church respond to the King's actions? Why is this so important to do?



ACTS 12:6-11 A Miraculous Escape

- 4. List the many impossible things that happened during Peter's escape from prison.
- 5. God took care of every single aspect of Peter's escape, in what ways do you see God taking care of things you don't even know or think about?
- 6. What does this miracle tell you about how God works?











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- 7. What is the first thing Peter did upon being set free from prison? v. 12
- 8. Read verses 13-17. Compare the reaction of Rhoda and the disciples.
- 9. Why do you think the disciples did not believe at first? Have you ever been surprised when God answered your prayers? Explain.
- 10. Peter wanted all of his friends to know what had happened to him. Why is it so important to share what God is doing in our lives?

BELIEVE THE TRUTH

As believers we may face trials or opposition for our faith, but we can rest assured that the all powerful God has a plan. When we are part of God's church and work to spread the Good News about Jesus Christ... We have victory in Christ!

PRAY THE TRUTH

Dear God of the Universe, help all the children in the world know that Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Help me pass the Good News about Jesus on to all the people I know through the power of Your Holy Spirit. In the powerful name of Jesus, Amen.

WALK IN TRUTH



Are you a believer and part of God's church family? Are you spreading the Good News about Jesus Christ?

What obstacles keep you from spreading the Good News?















Acts 12:1-17 (NLT)

Acts 12:1-5 James Is Killed and Peter Is Imprisoned

1 About that time King Herod Agrippa began to persecute some believers in the church. 2 He had the apostle James (John's brother) killed with a sword. 3 When Herod saw how much this pleased the Jewish people, he also arrested Peter. (This took place during the Passover celebration.) 4 Then he imprisoned him, placing him under the guard of four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring Peter out for public trial after the Passover. 5 But while Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him.

Acts 12:6-11 Peter's Miraculous Escape from Prison

6 The night before Peter was to be placed on trial, he was asleep, fastened with two chains between two soldiers. Others stood guard at the prison gate. 7 Suddenly, there was a bright light in the cell, and an angel of the Lord stood before Peter. The angel struck him on the side to awaken him and said, "Quick! Get up!" And the chains fell off his wrists. 8 Then the angel told him, "Get dressed and put on your sandals." And he did. "Now put on your coat and follow me," the angel ordered. 9 So Peter left the cell, following the angel. But all the time he thought it was a vision. He didn't realize it was actually happening. 10 They passed the first and second guard posts and came to the iron gate leading to the city, and this opened for them all by itself. So they passed through and started walking down the street, and then the angel suddenly left him. 11 Peter finally came to his senses. "It's really true!" he said. "The Lord has sent his angel and saved me from Herod and from what the Jewish leaders had planned to do to me!"

Acts 12:12-17

12 When he realized this, he went to the home of Mary, the mother of John Mark, where many were gathered for prayer. 13 He knocked at the door in the gate, and a servant girl named Rhoda came to open it. 14 When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the door, she ran back inside and told everyone, "Peter is standing at the door!" 15 "You're out of your mind!" they said. When she insisted, they decided, "It must be his angel." 16 Meanwhile, Peter continued knocking. When they finally opened the door and saw him, they were amazed. 17 He motioned for them to quiet down and told them how the Lord had led him out of prison. "Tell James and the other brothers what happened," he said. And then he went to another place.

Church: groups of believers; people are the church. When we become Christians we're born into the church family.

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