



Series: Topical
Passage Acts 12
Title: Prayer in God's Playbook
Speaker: Pastor JC Cooper, 2/13/2022

Discussion Starter – How do we know if our prayers make us participants or spectators in God's kingdom?

Herod Harasses the Church (Acts 12:1-5)

- Describe what is happening to the church and the spiritual implication at this point in time?
- Why did God allow Herod to kill James? What do we learn from this situation?
- Peter seems to be the next on Herod's list and the church responds by offering constant prayer. What do you think this constant prayer by the church looked like? Have you ever experienced something like this in your own walk with God?
- Describe in your own words what prayer means to you. What are some of the things that cause us to pray? What do our prayers reflect about our walk with God? Read James 5:13-18. What additional insights do these verses give us on the subject of praying to God?

Peter is Rescued by God (Acts 12:6-1:19)

- What do the chains placed on Peter represent in this story? In a spiritual sense how does the enemy desire to place chains on us?
- Where do you think Peter was in his walk with the LORD at this time, and why do you think he thought his escape was just a vision?
- Describe what is happening and what is revealed to Peter as the angel departs from him. How does Peter respond?
- What do we learn from this passage as to why our prayers matter?
- Why do you think those who were praying for Peter did not believe Rhoda when she announced Peter was at the gate? What prayers have you prayed to God that were answered that were hard for you to believe?
- What does it mean to pray in God's will? How do we know if we are praying in God's will or not?
- From God's perspective, what is the purpose for our prayers? What does it mean to be fervent in our prayers? Read Romans 8:26-28. What does this passage reveal about our prayers?
- Why was Peter so afraid of making a too much noise as the people who prayed from him expressed their astonishment of their prayers being answered? Read Proverbs 22:3. What insights are gained from this verse?

Understanding God's Timing (Acts 12:20-24)

- What is the impact that answered prayers have in our lives? What lesson do we learn about God's timing?