



Unit 32 | Session 4

PETER WAS RESCUED FROM PRISON

Acts 12

King Herod Agrippa was persecuting believers in the church. He killed James, one of Jesus' apostles. He arrested Peter too. While Peter was in prison, other believers in the church prayed and asked God to help him.

The night before his trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers. He was in chains. All of a sudden, an angel of the Lord appeared.

"Quick, get up!" the angel said. The chains fell off of Peter's wrists. The angel told Peter to get dressed. Then he followed the angel.

The angel led Peter out of the prison, past the guards, through the gate, and onto the streets. Then the angel left. When Peter looked around, he realized the Lord had rescued him from prison and from certain death!

Peter hurried to the house of Mary, the mother of John Mark, where the believers had gathered to pray. When Peter knocked at the door, a servant named Rhoda answered. She heard Peter's voice and she was so happy she rushed back inside, leaving Peter standing outside. "Peter is here! He is at the door!" she announced.

But the others didn't believe her. "You're crazy!" they said. When they opened the door, they could hardly believe it. Peter motioned to them to be quiet, and he told them how the Lord had rescued him from prison.

Christ Connection: God answered the people's prayers for Peter. God had a plan for Peter and the church, and He rescued Peter from his enemies. Peter knew he would face death because he believed in Jesus, but he kept going so he could share the good news of the gospel.



THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

» Use the following words to fill in the blanks below: Agrippa, angel, chains, light, Mary, Peter, prayed, rescued, Rhoda, soldiers.

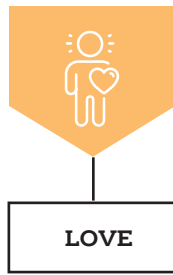
1. Believers in the church _____ and ask God to help Peter.
2. God _____ Peter from prison.
3. A bright _____ shone in Peter's cell when the angel came.
4. Peter went to the house of _____
5. The _____ could not figure out what happened to Peter.
6. King _____ killed and persecuted believers.
7. An _____ woke Peter up and helped him escape from prison.
8. The _____ fell off Peter's wrists when the angel came to him.
9. Peter knocked on the door and _____ answered.
10. _____ was arrested and put in prison.

» What does this story teach us about God?

» Why do you think Peter was able to sleep in prison, knowing that his good friend James had just been killed?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God answered the people's prayers for Peter. God had a plan for Peter and the church, and He rescued Peter from his enemies. Peter knew he would face death because he believed in Jesus, but he kept going so he could share the good news of the gospel.



THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

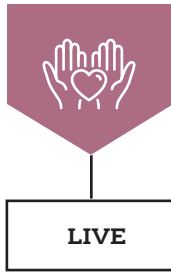
» How was Peter able to courageously face prison and even certain death?

» What if God does not answer our prayers as we hope?

» How can you be praying for others? Who do you know that needs prayer?

CHRIST CONNECTION

God answered the people's prayers for Peter. God had a plan for Peter and the church, and He rescued Peter from his enemies. Peter knew he would face death because he believed in Jesus, but he kept going so he could share the good news of the gospel.



THE MISSION OF THE GOSPEL

» Find 1 Corinthians 12:12 in your Bible and write the words below.

» Write a prayer to God, thanking Him that He hears your prayers and wants you to talk with Him.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

John 5:24

Colossians 4:2-3

Romans 12:12

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

Ephesians 6:18

1 Timothy 2:1