

Peter Escapes Prison

Acts 12:1-19



Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel.

THE STORY

King Herod, the Roman-backed king of Judea, threw several of Jesus' followers into prison. He was hoping this persecution would stop the spread of the Good News about Jesus. Peter, one of Jesus' closest disciples, is captured and thrown into prison.

The night before Peter's trial before Herod, God surprises Peter by sending an angel to lead him out of jail. As Peter follows the angel, he is so surprised, he thinks he's dreaming!

When Peter comes to his senses, he goes to a house where friends are praying for him—what a surprise! In fact, the people are so surprised, they do not think it can be Peter. They do not open the door! Peter keeps pounding on the door until the people inside open it and let him in. Read all about it in Acts 12:1-19.

THE POINT

God is surprising, so we watch for his surprises.

Through the Week

- Surprise each other! Hide encouraging notes or pictures around the house.
- Watch for God's surprises and the fun surprises your family left!
- At the end of the week, gather together to share about the surprises you found as well as other ways God has surprised you this week.



The video above presents another way to look at the lesson of *Peter in Prison*. The video talks about Christians being persecuted. What does "being persecuted" mean? How was Peter persecuted? What did Peter's friends do while Peter was in prison? How did God answer their prayers? What did this video encourage us to do in order to help Christians being persecuted around the world? Say a prayer right now that God would help and be with those being persecuted in his name.

WATCH AND DISCUSS the videos that tell the story of Peter escaping prison. Why was Peter in prison? How do you think he felt about being in prison? Why might Peter have not believed he was being set free by God's angel? How do you think Peter felt when he finally realized he had been set free by God? What is funny and understandable about Rhoda's and the other people's reaction in the house to which Peter went? What would this whole experience teach Peter, Rhoda, and everyone else about God?



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