

ADVENTURING WITH GOD: Following in the Apostles' Footsteps

Prevailing through Prayer
Acts 12:1–17



LET'S BEGIN HERE

God specializes in the impossible. There is nothing He cannot do! Yet, we're often slow to trust Him, even though we know He unleashes His power through our prayers, working miracles and performing serendipities that we never dreamed of. The Lord proves Himself faithful when we seek Him—even in the toughest circumstances and the most impossible situations. God's miraculous power might seem distant or theoretical at times, but it's not. It is real! The Acts of the Apostles proves it, teeming with true stories of supernatural encounters and glorious surprises. In this message, we discover how God used intercessory prayer to perform an incredible miracle in the life of Peter, the fisherman-turned-apostle.



LET'S DIG DEEPER

1. An Initial Orientation and an Impossible Situation

The events in Acts 12 took place during a time of great turmoil and persecution of Christians. Believers felt fearful and discouraged as Herod Agrippa ordered Christians tortured and put to death. His hope was to wipe out the leadership of the church. Peter was seized and thrown in prison. As soon as the believers in Jerusalem heard that Herod's guards had arrested Peter, they gathered together to pray earnestly for him.



Quotable

*The deep work of
the Holy Spirit
in our lives is
what gives us
the gumption to
stay at it.*

— Charles R. Swindoll



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Reaching Our World *Acts 1:1–11*

2. A Miraculous Intervention

God heard the intercessory prayers of His people, and He answered with an extraordinary miracle. Clearly, God had purposes for Peter that had not yet been fully accomplished.



LET'S LIVE IT

Paul succinctly summarized the problem we commonly face as fearful Christians; our perspective is limited to what we can see with our eyes. In 2 Corinthians 10:7, Paul said, “You are looking at things as they are outwardly.”

God is not shackled with the limitations of human eyesight. In Him, “we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses” (2 Corinthians 10:3–4). In Peter’s case, the prayers of his Christian community were answered by God in a mighty, miraculous way! An angelic-led escape brought him right to their doorstep.

Not until we come to the end of our own strength does God do His best work.

When He does, we’re usually unable to explain how.

Do you have seemingly impossible situations in your life? When have you seen God do some of His best work in your life?



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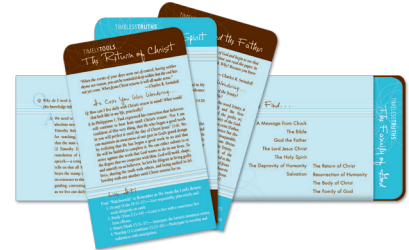
Tools for Digging Deeper



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