



KIDS FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE for August 14th- August 23rd

Acts In 30 Week 12: Peters Big Break

Family Activity: Prison Break

For this activity you need a wide open space like a backyard.

Designate two people, one will be the angel that broke Peter out of jail and the other person will be (you guessed it) Peter (Acts 12:6-19). Next go to a big open space and mark its parameters clearly. Anyone who is playing that is not Peter or the angel will be a guard. If you're a guard your eyes must be closed! With their eyes closed the guards have to try and tag the other two players before they go from one side of the play area to the other side 3 times! If either player gets tagged they are frozen until the other person can tag them to unfreeze them. If both get tagged then they are out.

FOCUS: Acts 12:1-5

King Herod Arrests Peter

REFLECT — Once again, the government in Jerusalem tries to repel the Jesus Movement by force. King Herod arrested James, one of Jesus' disciples, and had him put to death — And people actually approved of it! Trying to be a *people pleaser*, King Herod arrested Peter too and planned to do the same. When the Church in Jerusalem heard Peter was in danger, their immediate response was to pray fervently.

Q1 - Have you ever felt pressure to participate in things you are wrong because your friends are doing it or you want to appear a certain way like King Herod did?

Has there ever been a time when you prayed really hard for something or someone?

FOCUS: Acts 12:6-19

Peter Is Set Free

REFLECT — The night before Peter was to be executed, an angel appeared to him and told him to "wake up!" Peter got up and followed the angel out of the prison but he thought he was just dreaming. He ran past the guards and all the doors opened up so that he ran out of the prison. Once he was out, he realized that he was free! He went to Mary's house where lots of believers were having a prayer meeting. They couldn't believe he was there (and Herod couldn't believe Peter had escaped.)

Q2 - How many stories in the Bible can you think of where God delivers someone against impossible odds?

FOCUS: Acts 12:20-23

Prideful Herod Is Judged

REFLECT — This portion of scripture shows us a different side of the story. Peter was appointed as a leader in God's church and Herod was a leader in the world. Peter was freed by an angel and Herod was struck by an angel. Peter lived his life for the Lord, Herod lived for himself. This shows us that it's better to have little and live for God than have everything and not know God.

Q3 - What ultimately led to King Herod's downfall? Why can God use a humble person more than a prideful person? Can you practice being humble or is it something you just have to learn? Explain.

FOCUS: Acts 12:24

The Word Continues to Spread

REFLECT - The chapter ends by saying, "*But the word of God continued to spread and flourish.*" God's people (Christians) have a way of thriving in the face of persecution and during really uncertain times. No matter what the enemy may throw our way to distract us, scare us, or harm us — In the end — God always comes out on top and He takes us with Him!

Q4 - What is the "word of God?" Why do you think the Word of God tends to spread quicker in hard times more than in good times? Do you find yourself going to God quicker on good days or on bad days? Who needs to hear the Word of God and how can they hear it?

