

7/5/2020

Prepare for Prayer Surprises!

New Life- Reaching Out #5

Modern difficulties and views can **challenge** or **oppose** active faith in God, who is neither measurable nor controllable, yet says he is present and good. Early followers of Jesus met similar threats by intensely **asking God** for his help. **God overcame** the opposition and **expanded** his outreach to more people!

¹ *It was about this time that **King Herod arrested** some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. ² He **had James**, the brother of John, **put to death** with the sword. ³ When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, **Herod** proceeded to **seize Peter** also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread.*

⁴ *After **arresting Peter**, he **put him in prison**, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover...* **Acts 12:1-4**

Expect to face times of opposition!

⁵ *But while **Peter** was kept in prison, the church was **earnestly praying** for him.* **Acts 12:5**

² ***Devote yourselves to prayer**, being watchful and thankful.*

³ *And **pray** for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ...*

⁴ ***Pray** that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should...*

¹² ***Epaphras**, who is a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always **wrestling in prayer** for you; that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured.* **Colossians 4:2-4, 12**

Pray with desperation & determination!

⁶ *The night before Herod was to bring Peter to trial, **Peter** was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. ⁷ Suddenly an **angel of the Lord** appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "**Quick, get up!**" he said, and the **chains fell off** Peter's wrists...* **Acts 12:6-25**

Get ready for future celebration & thanksgiving!

Crossroads Church

Discovering Life Connected with God!

Our Vision

To be a dynamic and diverse family of believers in Jesus Christ connected in transforming relationships with God, each other, and our world!

Our Purpose and Mission

To connect people with God, God's family, and God's mission through a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ!

Our Strategy

To fulfill God's purpose in our lives through a balanced commitment to love God with our entire being and to love our neighbor as ourselves, according to God's Great Commandment and Great Commission in the Bible.

Our Commitment

Growth

To speak and act more like Jesus Christ each day of our lives.
To reach people disconnected from God with the love of Jesus.

Relationships

To develop depth, consistency, and closeness in our walk with Jesus.
To share life and spiritual journey together with each other.

Relevance

To apply God's truths and principles to life in practical ways.
To engage and meaningfully share Jesus with people.

Involvement

To participate in church family relationships and responsibilities.
To discover and contribute our dynamic and diverse abilities.

Truth

To value Jesus Christ and the Bible as God's eternal revelation to us.
To believe and center on Jesus Christ as forgiver and life leader.

Let's Catch the Vision and Share the Mission Together!

"We are an autonomous, biblically-based church family that actively partners locally and internationally to fulfill our mission to connect people in transforming relationship with Jesus Christ!"