

L I F E A P P L I C A T I O N

- 1) In Acts 12, God's people prayed and miraculous events occurred. Do you believe that miraculous events occur today when we pray? Why or why not?
- 2) We find the church praying in Acts 12:5 in the midst of intense persecution. Do you think they would have prayed the same way if they were not being persecuted? Why or why not?
- 3) As you examine the role of prayer in your life, how does it compare to the role it played in the lives of the Christians we read about in Acts 12?
- 4) As you spend time daily this week in prayer, consider using the A.C.T.S. method. You can do this by implementing **A**doration, **C**onfession, **T**hanksgiving and **S**upplication into your prayer life.

Which part of the ACTS method do you think is the easiest to do? Which is the most difficult?

Closing Thought: As we approach our One Great Day on September 26th, take some time to talk about that day. How can you use your service that day to share the Gospel with others?

SERMON SERIES: CHURCH ON MISSION (Week 6)
Sermon Message: How God's Will is Done on Earth as it is
in Heaven - *Prayer Is Not Optional On Mission*
September 6, 2009
Dr. Jason Pettus



Today's Scripture Reading: Phil 2:9-11
Next Week: Acts 13-14
Testimony: Dave Knighton

Philippians 4:6-7 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

PRAYER IS A BLESSING THAT _____ PRODUCES.

"In seasons of severe trial, the Christian has nothing on earth that he can trust to, and is therefore compelled to cast himself on his God alone... Happy storm that wrecks a man on such a rock as this! O blessed hurricane that drives the soul to God and God alone!" C.H. Spurgeon
Acts 12:1-5 (Pew Bible Page 780)

PARTICIPATE IN THE PRAYER GOD IS _____.
Acts 12:6-11 (Pew Bible Page 780)

BELIEVE GOD _____ PRAYER.
Acts 12:12-17 (Pew Bible Page 780)

EMBRACE THE _____ OF THE POWER OF PRAYER.
Acts 12:18-25 (Pew Bible Pages 780, 781)

NOTE: Be sure and check out Pastor Jason's blogspot at pastorjasonpettus.blogspot.com. Check for updates every Monday. You can post comments and ask questions about what you've read, heard, and discussed.

A copy of today's message will be available at the kiosk in the lobby immediately following the service. Suggested donation for tapes or CDs is \$2. First time guests get today's tape/CD free by turning in your guest card at the Welcome Center.

Church on Mission is an 8 week Small Group study that runs from August 2nd to September 26th. If you need to find a Small Group, please contact Richard Carwile at rcarwile@lhbg.org or 843-9462. You can view a list of our Small Groups at www.livinghopewired.com.

O V E R V I E W

- 1) This past week, Pastor Jason preached from Acts 12; "Prayer Is Not Optional on Mission." What did you learn from his message?

- 2) Corrie Ten Boom (a Holocaust survivor who helped many Jews escape the Nazis during World War II and later wrote, *The Hiding Place*) once posed the question, "Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?"

How would you answer that question in your own life? What is the difference between the two?

A C L O S E R L O O K

A c t s 1 2

Read Acts 12:1-24 and discuss the following questions:

- 1) What was the atmosphere surrounding the early church in Acts 12:1-4?

- 2) According to Acts 12:5, how did the church respond to this atmosphere?

- 3) How do you think the events of Acts 12:6-11 were related to the prayers we read about in verse 5? Do you think this is what the church was praying for?

- 4) According to Acts 12:12-16, how did the church respond to Peter's release from prison? Why do you think they responded this way?

- 5) Consider how Peter's circumstances changed between Acts 12:1-4 and Acts 12:24. Then consider how Herod's circumstances changed in that same span of time. What contrast do you see between the two?

- 6) What role do you think prayer made in the word of God increasing and multiplying in verse 24?