

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

Our Mission: To win, build and send Department of Defense leaders to live for Jesus Christ

17-21 March 2003

ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT #10 –THE POWER OF PRAYER

INTRODUCTION:

- Describe a time when God answered your prayer and you were surprised?

OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION:

Note: The God fearing Roman Centurion Cornelius and his household in Caesarea received the gift of the Holy Spirit and were baptized by Peter in the Name of Jesus Christ. Believers scattered by the persecution at Stephen's death spread the message to Phoenicia, Antioch, and the island of Cyprus. At Antioch, many Gentiles turned to the Lord, and Barnabas and Saul spent a year teaching the large numbers of new believers. (Neighborhood Bible Studies)

Read Acts 12:1-19

- What affect did the death of James and the imprisonment of Peter have on the people?
- What are the enemies of the church expecting? (2-4, 11)
- What seems to motivate Herod's actions?
- What precautions does Herod take with Peter?
- Describe the steps and timing in Peter's rescue.
- What response did they give to Rhoda's announcement?
- How did Peter's miraculous affect Herod and the soldiers? (18, 19)

Read Acts 12:20-25

- What critical mistake did Herod make?
- How did the death of Herod affect the delivery of the Word of God?

APPLICATION:

- How do the events in chapter 12 inspire your prayer life?
- What and how can we pray for others when they face trouble?
- Spend the last 15 minutes of your study time praying for one another and for the growth and the multiplication of the Word of God.

In the first place, prayer will promote our personal piety, our individual holiness, our individual growth into the likeness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as nothing else but the study of the Word of God; and these two things, prayer and the study of the Word of God, always go hand-in-hand, for there is no true prayer without the study of the Word of God, and there is no true study of the Word of God without prayer.

R.A. Torrey