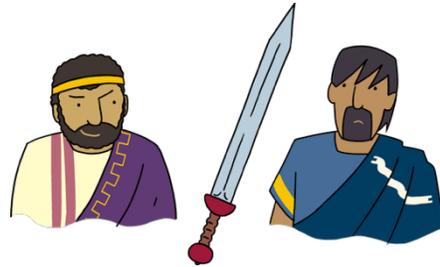


Video:
[https://cdn.jwplayer.com/previ
ews/TVWq9GRB](https://cdn.jwplayer.com/previ
ews/TVWq9GRB) "The Prison
Doors Open as God's Peeps
Pray" by BibleStoriesOnLine



Lesson #10: PETER ESCAPES FROM PRISON (ACTS 12:1-19)

The Bible says in Acts 12 that the church was growing and growing. Each day more people became Christians. But there was a ruler in Judea named King Herod who did not like the Christians. He arrested and hurt many of them. He even had the apostle James, the brother of John put to death by the sword.



Peter was arrested and put in prison. He had chains put around his wrists and feet. Peter was also chained between two guards. There were more guards guarding the prison doors.

The Christians in Jerusalem were sad that Peter was in prison. So, they gathered at the home of a woman named Mary to pray. They asked God to get Peter out of prison.



The night before Peter's trial, he was sleeping in between 2 guards.



Someone touched Peter and woke him up. It was an angel! The angel told Peter to get up and get dressed. The chains immediately fell off of Peter!

Peter followed the angel past all of the guards and out of the prison. When they came to the locked city gates, the gates just opened all on their own.



Peter followed the angel out of the city. Then the angel disappeared. When Peter looked around, he realized that this was not a vision. He really was outside the city! God had sent an angel to help him escape!



Peter went to Mary's house. He knew that Christians liked to meet there. He knocked on the door.

A girl named Rhoda came to the door. When she heard Peter's voice, she couldn't believe it! She was so happy and so surprised that she left Peter standing there and didn't even let him in.



When Rhoda told the others that Peter was at the door they didn't believe her. But when they went and checked, they realized Rhoda was right. God had answered their prayers. Peter was out of prison! Praise God!

God always has a plan!

Even when Christians are persecuted, God makes a way for the good news to spread. Even in hard times people learn to trust and follow King Jesus!



PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY

Color the picture:



TRACE THE LETTERS BELOW:

God sent an angel to
help Peter escape.

They walked past the guards.

The gate opened.

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

Read Acts 12:1-19 for the Answers to the questions below:

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1. Who was king of Judea at this time?
2. Which disciple had the king recently killed?
3. Peter was put in prison during which Appointed Time (Feast)?
4. How many squads of soldiers guarded Peter?
5. How was Peter bound in prison?
6. Who prayed for Peter while he was in prison?
7. How did the angel wake up Peter?
8. What did the angel say to Peter?
9. As Peter walked through the city, what opened without any help?
10. Whose house did Peter first go after escaping from prison?

UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

Consider the rest of the story: Acts 12:18-24

¹⁸In the morning, there was no small commotion among the soldiers as to what had become of Peter. ¹⁹After Herod had a thorough search made for him and did not find him, he cross-examined the guards and ordered that they be executed.” (Acts 12: 18-19)

Wow! Herod had great power! And he was eager to use it!
But... there’s still more to the story!

Verses 20-24 tells us that King Herod travelled to another city to settle some business. The people were afraid that Herod would be angry and stop letting them buy food. So, they began to praise Herod and say he was God.

Herod should have stopped the people from calling him God. But he just let them keep saying it. Then something shocking happened. An angel struck Herod down and worms started eating him. Then Herod died. Herod thought he was as powerful as God. He was NOT!





Does Herod’s pride and death remind you of something you learned in Proverbs?
Write the proverb:

The book of Acts was written by Luke, a doctor. He says Herod was eaten by worms. Gross! A modern doctor might say that Herod got a parasite that ate away his digestive system.

Even Josephus, the ancient historian, said that after Herod’s speech he complained of terrible stomach pains, and he died 5 days later.