

# Agape Life

## Gospel Project Bible Study

July 31, 2022

Acts 12

**Do You Really Believe  
That God Answers Prayer?**

Volume 11 - Unit 32 – Session 1  
The Church Is Sent to Trust God

# Session in a Sentence

**God responds to the prayers of His people even when they may have difficulty seeing Him at work.**

# What's the Point?

- Point 1: Praying Fervently in a Time of Fear      Acts 12:1-5**
- Point 2: Recognizing God's Work in a Time of Rescue      Acts 12:6-11**
- Point 3: Disbelieving in a Time of Deliverance      Acts 12:12-17**

# A Wee Bit of Background

**Herod the Great**

Luke 1-2, Matt 2

**Aristobulus**

**Archelaus**

Matt 2:22

**Herod Antipas**

(Tetrarch) Every Gospel reference  
except Luke 1-2, Matt 2

**Philip**

Luke 3:1,  
Matt 14:3

**Herod Agrippa I**

Every Acts reference  
(except 4:27 & 13:1,  
which refer to Antipas)

**Herodias**

Philip's wife who became  
Antipas' wife – Matt 14:3-6

**Herod Agrippa II**

Every Acts reference  
to "Agrippa" (chap 25-26)

**Bernice**

"Wife" of Agrippa II

**Drusilla**

Wife of Gov. Felix  
(Acts 24:24)

**Point 1:**

**Praying Fervently  
in a  
Time of Fear  
Acts 12:1-5**

# **Point 1: Praying Fervently in a Time of Fear Acts 12:1-5**

## **Fear**

**Fear can be totally debilitating.**

**Fear can be totally immobilizing.**

**Fear can be totally disorienting.**

**Fear can lead to irrational behavior.**

**Fear can lead to destructive behavior.**

**Fear can lead to anger.**

**Fear can affect physical health.**

**Fear can slow and/or shut down thought.**

# **Point 1: Praying Fervently in a Time of Fear Acts 12:1-5**

## **Fear**

**Psalm 56:3**

**Psalm 55:22**

**2 Timothy 1:7**

**1 Peter 5:7**

**Philippians 4:6-7**

**Point 1: Praying Fervently in a Time of  
Fear Acts 12:1-5**

**Why should we pray in  
times of fear?**

**Will God not act  
if we fail to pray?**

**Does God only act  
when we pray?**



# **Point 1: Praying Fervently in a Time of Fear Acts 12:1-5**

**Prayer and Providence: The Bible teaches that although God has a \_\_\_\_\_ for this world that He promises to fulfill, prayer is often the means God uses to \_\_\_\_\_ His divine purpose. Even though God \_\_\_\_\_ the end result, the means that lead to that end result will be accomplished through prayer.**

# Point 1: Praying Fervently in a Time of Fear Acts 12:1-5

**Prayer and Providence: The Bible teaches that although God has a plan for this world that He promises to fulfill, prayer is often the means God uses to accomplish His divine purpose. Even though God knows the end result, the means that lead to that end result will be accomplished through prayer.**

**Point 2:**

**Recognizing  
God's Work  
in a  
Time of Rescue  
Acts 12:6-11**

**Point 2: Recognizing God's Work in a  
Time of Rescue Acts 12:6-11**

**God moves in mysterious ways.  
Yes or no?**

**Isaiah 55:8**

**“For My thoughts are not your thoughts,  
Nor are your ways My ways,”  
says the Lord.**

**Point 3:**

**Disbelieving**  
**in a**  
**Time of Deliverance**  
**Acts 12:12-17**

**Point 3: Disbelieving in a Time of  
Deliverance      Acts 12:12-17**

**Mark 9:14-29**

**Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.**

**Mark 9:29-29; Matthew 17:19-21**

**“This can come out only  
by prayer and fasting.”**

**It is prayer and fasting  
that leads to faith.**

## Special Note on Prayer

**If God is sovereign, why do we pray?**

**We pray “in Jesus’ Name” because we are submitting to His authority. Then God, in His sovereignty, can and does act according to what He knows is the best course of action. When Moses “changed God’s mind” it wasn’t that God didn’t know what was going on at the bottom of the mountain. He wanted Moses to be involved in the process – to turn on the faucet of His divine plan and grace.**

# How Should We Then Live?

**God's love, power, and sovereignty are proven throughout scripture and they are proven ultimately in the resurrection of Jesus.**

**Therefore, we should pray faithfully with anticipation that God will accomplish His purposes when we pray.**



# Agape Life

## Gospel Project Bible Study

Next Week

August 7, 2022

**Acts 13**

## **The Church Is Sent to the World**

Volume 11 - Unit 32 – Session 2  
The Church Is Sent to the World