

Acts.



The Revolution Continues...

#4 - "Earnest Prayers, Open Prisons"

"If You Really Want To Embarrass The Average Christian, Just Ask Them To Tell You About His Or Her Private Prayer Life." ~ D. A. Carson ~

The Theology (Luke 11 & 18)

Jesus Taught Us To Pray KINGDOM Prayers

"Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. ³ Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴ Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation ..." Luke 11:2-4

When You Pray, Pray PERSISTENTLY

"For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice'." Luke 18:4-53

The Application (Acts 12)

1. Prayer Is A Means Of RELEASING Fear And Worry To God

Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover. So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. Acts 12:4-5

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7

2. Prayer Is The _____ Of Kingdom Warfare

The night before Herod was to bring him 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 12:6-7

"Prayer is primarily a wartime walkie-talkie for the mission of the church as it advances against the powers of darkness and unbelief. It is not surprising that prayer malfunctions when we try to make it a domestic intercom to call upstairs for more comforts in the den. Until you know that life is war, you cannot know what prayer is for:

*Prayer is for the accomplishment of
a wartime mission."*

~ John Piper, Desiring God ~

Life Group Discussion Guide

(We believe that spiritual growth happens best in circles . life groups provide a safe and encouraging environment to experience authentic Christian community, growth faith and discover the life-giving truth of God's Word. Connect. Grow. Move. For more info contact pastor Joshua@waipunachapel.com)

- What, if anything, impacted you most from this weekend's message?

Read Luke 11:1-13 & Luke 18:1-5 together with your Group. As you read, pause to briefly discuss, words, phrases or statements in the text that stand out to you.

- What new understanding about prayer did these verses reveal to you?

Read Acts 12:1-24 together with your Group. As you read, pause to briefly discuss, words, phrases or statements in the text that stand out to you.

- Imagine yourself in Peter's sandals. What do you think it must have been like to be led out of jail by an angel?
- Why do you think those that had gathered to pray for Peter were so surprised at his release?
- Discuss the John Piper quote; *"Until you know that life is war, you cannot know what prayer is for: Prayer is for the accomplishment of a wartime mission."*

Read Psalm 5 together with your Group. As you read, pause to briefly discuss, words, phrases or statements in the text that stand out to you.

- What can we learn from David's prayer about releasing our fear to God?

Read Psalm 4 together with your Group. As you read, pause to briefly discuss, words, phrases or statements in the text that stand out to you.

- What can we learn from this Psalm about the nature of intercessory prayer.
- As you reflect this week on your own personal prayer life consider ways that you can pray more kingdom orientated prayer.

Action Step:

As a group consider setting aside one night each month in 2019 to pray "Kingdom Prayers" for your families, communities, church and nation.

Week 10 S.O.A.P Journal Reading Plan

(Scripture-Observation-Application-Prayer)

Monday Acts 21:1-16 Tuesday Acts 21:17-26 Wednesday Acts 21:27-36

Thursday Acts 21:37-22:21 Friday Acts 22:22-23:11

Sources:

JD Greear "Sent" - Summit Church - North Carolina <https://www.summitrdu.com/message>

William H Willimon "Acts" Interpretation Bible Commentary www.wjkbooks.com

Feedback or Questions? Contact Shaun@waipunachapel.com