

# Peter's (Not So) Great Escape

Acts 12

## WHAT A WEEK!

The church suffers a \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 12:1-4

The church uses its \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 12:5-12

The church shows its \_\_\_\_\_?  
Acts 12:13-19

The church out lives us \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 12:20-25

## FOUR THINGS TO REMEMBER IN A CRISIS

1. Prayer isn't just something we \_\_\_\_\_; it's someone we're \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 12:5-12, Matthew 7:7-12, John 15:1-8, Romans 10:14-16, James 5:13-18

2. The opposite of faith is \_\_\_\_\_; not \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 12:9, 11, 15-16, Mark 9:14-29, Matthew 8:23-27

3. It's not the \_\_\_\_\_; it's the \_\_\_\_\_ of our faith that matters.  
Acts 12:5, James 2:17-20, Matthew 17:14-21

4. We ask for what we \_\_\_\_\_, but God decides what we \_\_\_\_\_.  
Acts 12:1-4, 24-25, James 1:16-17

1. We have a variety of expectations of how God responds to us when we pray to Him. What are two or three things we can learn from Luke 11:1-13 about prayer and God's response when we come to Him?

When I pray to God, I sense that He is (be honest about any that apply)...

- not all that interested
- ready to listen
- wondering why I can't focus
- a wise and faithful King ready to guide me
- a compassionate father
- wondering where I've been
- disappointed or even upset with my life
- ready to help
- other

2. We heard this weekend that we're given the freedom to ask for what we want, but that God decides what we get. How might the following verses help you in the midst of a crisis?

Romans 8:1-2  
Romans 8:15-18  
Romans 8:28  
Romans 8:31  
Romans 8:35, 38-39

Which of these verses is most important for you to remember and why?

How or when might sharing these verses with someone in crisis be a helpful thing? Is there a time when they might not be helpful (see Romans 12:15)?

3. The early church gives a good example of how a crisis motivates us to pray. In the midst of these crises we often grow in our ability to pray and connect with God. This kind of growth can launch us into new desires and ways to pray for others when the heat isn't on. How could Paul's prayer in Colossians 1:9-12 help guide your prayer for others beyond the crisis zone?

Suggestion – try re-writing this prayer in your own words for someone you know or yourself.