
Theme: God's Deliverance!

Welcome: Have you ever had a narrow escape from a particular situation? Can you share this experience with your cell? Looking back were you aware of God's deliverance?

Worship Suggestion:

Read & meditate on the words from the Psalm of Deliverance (Psalm 121)

Word/ Teaching Slot

Key Scriptures: Acts 12:1-19

For those who were present on Sunday(!) what part of David's sermon can you remember and was there anything that you found encouraging?

Questions and discussion Points

Looking at the Bible passage put yourself in Peter's shoes (or sandals!).

- How would you feel knowing that your good friend James had already been killed with the sword (v.2) and that you were likely to be next? (Perhaps a slightly obvious question, but think it through anyway with regard to your own reaction to difficult and how Peter coped with the situation)

[Note that it wasn't Peter who was pleading for his own life. He was asleep! However, the local Christians were 'earnestly praying to God for him' (v.5)]

- Have you ever been in a situation where you have 'earnestly prayed'? Was it for yourself or for someone-else? What happened? Do you have a testimony to share to encourage your cell-mates!

In this passage we read about the reality of angels. They are 'ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation' (Heb.1:14)

- Has anyone in your cell group encountered them? If so, when? How? (Discuss)

Reminder: 'God is able to miraculously deliver. He is also able to move in more subtle ways.' Agree? Disagree? (Discuss)

Witness (See Acts 12:16)

It's quite encouraging that the early Church didn't expect a miracle to happen either! However, there was Peter standing in the doorway for all of them to see. Faced with such conclusive evidence no wonder they made a noise! (v.17).

Do we 'make a noise' about how the Lord has delivered us? The release Jesus Christ has made in our own lives is nothing short of miraculous! (Discuss & praise!)

Pray about opportunities to communicate with others the amazing deliverance that the Lord has given us by saving and keeping us. Who, in your circle of friends, work-colleagues, families; etc. need deliverance? (in the Acts 12 meaning of the word!)