

# Acts-Revelation

## People pray for Peter Acts 12:1-17

### Younger Verse

Ask and it will be given to you. Matthew 7:7

### Older Verse

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Matthew 7:7

### Welcome Time

Ask the kids if they have ever seen God answer a prayer. Explain that in today's story they will see how God answered a REALLY BIG prayer.

### Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

During the time after Jesus went up to Heaven, many people believed in Him. The mean king decided to do terrible things to the believers.

Herod found Peter and had him arrested. Peter was guarded by 16 soldiers. His trial was to begin after a special feast called the Passover. Until his trial, Peter stayed in jail. But the church kept praying to God for him.

The night before the trial, Peter was sleeping. He was between two soldiers, handcuffed with 2 chains. The other soldiers were guarding the door of the jail.

Suddenly an angel appeared. A light shone in the room. The angel touched Peter on the side and woke him up and said, "Hurry! Get up!"

Peter stretched and rubbed his eyes. He looked down and saw that the chains were off his hands. He got up and put on his sandals.

Then the angel said, "Put on your coat and follow me."

So the angel went out, and Peter followed him. Peter did not know that this was really happening. He thought that he was dreaming.

They went past the first and second guard. They came to the iron gate that separated them from the city. The gate opened itself for them. They went through the gate and walked down a street. Suddenly the angel disappeared.

### Lesson Goals

See how God answered prayers  
Understand how important it is to trust Jesus  
Personally take time to pray specifically for someone

Then Peter realized that he wasn't dreaming! "Now I know that the Lord really sent his angel to me. He rescued me from the king."

Immediately he went to Mary's house (she was John Mark's mother). Many people were there praying. Peter knocked on the outside door. A servant girl by the name of Rhoda came to answer it. She recognized Peter's voice so she ran to tell the others that Peter was here. She was so excited that she forgot to open the door!

They said to her, "You are crazy!" But she kept on saying that it was true. So they said, "It must be Peter's angel."

Peter continued to knock. When they opened the door, they saw him and were amazed. Peter hushed the group and explained how the Lord led him out of the jail. Then he asked them to tell other believers about this miracle.

God did an amazing miracle that day. He let the people see that He can do things that are bigger and more incredible than we can ever imagine. I'm sure those people really understood the importance of prayer after that. They saw how God answered their prayer and they were forever changed. They knew that God would answer all their prayers (with a yes, no, or maybe) and give the things that were needed.

God did an even bigger miracle when Jesus died and came back to life! Everyone saw how Jesus died on a cross. Then, three days later, Jesus was alive again! Because Jesus died and rose again, we have a way for us to get to heaven. We must believe in Jesus, tell Him we are sorry for the things we do wrong, and follow Him. If you want to know how you can follow Jesus, talk to us about it any time.

**Learning Activities**

Look in the packet to find some activities to help the kids remember the lesson.

**Memory Verse Activities**

Talk about the prayer Peter's friends prayed. How did God answer the prayer. Were the friends surprised? Do you think that they should have expected God to do a miracle?

**Prayer Time**

Today is a good day to really have a special prayer time. Remind the kids that when Peter's friends prayed, Peter was set free from jail. (You may need to remind them that just because you pray for someone to get out of jail, does not mean that they will be set free.) (Be sensitive to those who have family in jail) Pray for specific needs.

**Clean Up/Snack time**

Make sure your place looks spic and span. If Jesus were to walk through the door, would you be proud of your place and how the kids helped clean up? Cleaning up helps the kids begin to take responsibility and take care of the church.

Preschool Lesson  
For  
People pray for Peter

Jesus' friend, Peter, told many people about Jesus. Where they lived, a person could get into trouble for doing something like that. Well, Peter got into trouble and the guards put him in jail.

He had 16 guards that watched him. (Count to 16; for some it is difficult to get past 10; help them learn their numbers!)

Peter had on heavy chains to make sure that he would not escape for the jail.

One night, Peter was very sleepy. Suddenly something happened. Peter thought he was dreaming. An angel appeared and a light shone in the room. (Shine a flashlight if you have one) The angel touched Peter on the side and woke him up and said, "Hurry! Get up!"

Peter stretched and rubbed his eyes. (Rub your eyes) He looked down and saw that the chains were off his hands. He got up and put on his sandals.

Then the angel said, "Put on your coat and follow me."

So the angel went out, and Peter followed him. Peter did not know that this was really happening. He thought that he was dreaming.

They went past the first and second guard. They came to the iron gate that separated them from the city. The gate opened itself for them. They went through the gate and walked down a street. Suddenly the angel disappeared. Then Peter realized that he wasn't dreaming! "Now I know that the Lord really sent his angel to me. He rescued me from the jail."

Immediately he went to Mary's house (she was John Mark's mother). Many people were there praying. Peter knocked on the outside door. A servant girl by the name of Rhoda came to answer it. She recognized Peter's voice so she ran to tell the others that Peter was here. She was so excited that she forgot to open the door!

They said to her, "You are crazy!" But she kept on saying that it was true. So they said, "It must be Peter's angel."

Peter continued to knock. When they opened the door, they saw him and were amazed. Peter hushed the group and explained how the Lord led him out of the jail. Then he asked them to tell other believers about this miracle.

The people got to see how God answered a special prayer. God wants us to pray too. He listens to our prayers and wants to help us with all our needs.



Hands-On Activities  
For  
Peter Gets Out of Jail

Make paper chains and talk about how Peter got out of jail.

Talk about prayer. See what happened when people prayed in today's lesson. Write down special requests in a notebook and encourage the kids to pray. Record answers! This will help the kids see how God answers prayers.

Act out the story! What a fun way to help the kids remember it!

For a fun snack, make chains out of fruit roll-ups or licorice.

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