

Prevailing Church
Church Without Walls – Part 6
Life Church St. Louis – May 24, 2020
Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker
Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

Psalms 100:2-4 (ESV) Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

Matthew 16:18 (ESV) ... on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

1. United prayer is _____

Acts 12:1-2 (ESV) About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword,

Acts 12:3-4 (ESV) and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people.

Acts 12:5 (ESV) So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.

Acts 12:6 (ESV) Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison.

Acts 12:11 (ESV) When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

2. Great _____ isn't required

Acts 12:13-14 (ESV) And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a servant girl named Rhoda came to answer. Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and reported that Peter was standing at the gate.

Acts 12:15-16 (ESV) They said to her, "You are out of your mind." But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, "It is his angel!" But Peter continued knocking, and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed.

Acts 12:17 (ESV) But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, "Tell these things to James and to the brothers." Then he departed and went to another place.

3. God's church is _____

Acts 12:21-22 (ESV) On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them. And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!"

Acts 12:23 (ESV) Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.

Acts 12:24 (ESV) But the word of God increased and multiplied.

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily time of Bible reading & prayer (Read Acts 12).
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend to attend the service next week.

How will I obey God's Word this week? _____

Prevailing Church Study Guide

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Intro. What have you missed most from not being able to worship together on Sunday mornings?

Intro. What does Matthew 16:18 tell us about Satan's attack on the church and Jesus' promise?

Intro. How do you think that God has been building Life Church during this crisis?

1A. Why does God allow some believers to be martyred for their faith (acts 12:1-2)?

1B. What do you think the church was praying for Peter (Acts 12:3-5)?

1C. What was God's purpose in rescuing Peter (Acts 12:6-11)? What does this rescue tell us about the activity of angels?

1D. In what ways is corporate prayer important? How does individual prayer prepare you for corporate prayer?

2A. What does the prayer meeting's response to Peter's arrival tell us about their faith level (Acts 12:13-16)?

2B. How do you think that Peter's rescue affected his faith level (Acts 12:17)?

2C. How does the early church prayer meeting's little faith and God's miracle encourage you?

2D. How do you think we could encourage more people to be involved in group prayer?

3A. Why do you think that God brought judgement on King Herod (Acts 12:21-23)?

3B. What does Acts 12:23 tell us about another activity of angels?

3C. Explain what Acts 12:24 means (see also Acts 6:7).

3D. How might Hebrews 12:26-29 apply to what is happening in our world today (see also Haggai 2:6-7)?

3E. What is your vision for how you and our church can reach more people for Jesus?