


Message Outline

Character Study on Simon Peter: Peter's Release from Prison Acts 12



Small Group Reflection Questions 

(Please take time to ponder and pencil in to prep for this week's small group session.)

Intro: Reviewing series on Simon Peter...

- Character study started by Word of the Year convo found in Mt.16:17-19...

v.1a—"this time" refers to increase in persecution and spread of Gospel (11:19ff.)...

v.1-4—King Herod is the grandson of the Herod in the Christmas killing in Mt.2...

- Already killed James (Peter's fishing buddy), and now out for Peter's blood...

v.5—Church's reaction to tough times... "earnest prayer"!!!

v.6—Sleeping the night before your death sentence... a peace found in the Prince of Peace!

v.7—God lights up a dark situation!

v.8-11—Realizing what God's done...

v.12-16a—Even those praying for a miracle shocked when the miracle shows up!

v.17—Peter tells his testimony...

v.18-19—Stories not taken lightly...

Last Lessons from Peter's Life

- For further study, check out Books of 1&2 Peter in NT...
 - Peter mentioned on 1x beyond Acts 12...
 - Much of the rest of Acts is on Paul's missionary journeys...
- 1) _____
- Miracles in Peter's life: catch of fish (Lk.5), walking on water (Mt.14), healing (Mk.1, Acts 3), transfiguration (Mt.17), Pentecost (Acts 2)...
 - God's still ALL-mighty!!!
- 2) _____
- Mystery of miracles: Peter's released (v.7), but James wasn't (v.2)...
 - Even later there would come a time in Peter's life where he was captured and martyred not miracled again (cf. Jn.21:18-19)...
 - In the confusion, look to Christ—the miracle worker who endured the cross and came out on the other side more alive!

Read: John 8

**From this passage, who is Jesus and/or what's this say about life in Him (cf. Jn.20:30-31)?*

**What spoke to you this past Sunday (ie. what made you laugh, learn, look deeper at life etc.)?*

**This week we closed the series on Simon Peter. What's one thing about Peter's life that has spoken to your life thru this series?*

**God shines His light in a prison cell of all places for Peter (v.7). Has God ever shown up in a surprising place in your experience with Him? Explain.*

**Part of the miraculous escape was moved along by "earnest prayer" (v.5). What do you find yourself most earnestly praying about at this time?*

**The story ends with Peter sharing his experience with other believers (v.17). Is there a miraculous story or way God's worked that you'd like to share with your group? Share.*