



Grace Assembly Of God

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

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| Scripture: | Acts 12 | Title: | God's Mission Unchained |
| Author | Wong Hui Hui | | |
| Summary of Chapter | Peter gets thrown into prison by King Herod who had previously put to death James. While God's mission for the gospel to reach both Jew and Gentile was advancing through the church (Acts 8,10,11), the church faced uncertain times of persecution (Acts 4-8, 12). | | |

| Key Verse(s) NLT | How does it speak to me? |
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| ⁵ <i>"But while Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him."</i> | <p>Although Peter was imprisoned, God's mission through prayer refused to be in chains! The church though not knowing or expecting what the eventual outcome would be trusted in the powerful and sovereign hand of God to bring about His good and perfect will. Peter walking out of prison despite tight security was truly nothing short of a miracle!</p> <p>In Feb'20, Grace AOG faced the heat of the Covid19 crisis. The entire staff team seemed to be "imprisoned" at NCID or at home. Like the church in Acts 12, Gracians rose in earnest prayer. At that time, the Grace Prison Ministry Aftercare team too organized a synchronized prayer for the church. It was a beautiful sight to behold – despite not being the most articulate or confident in prayer, the returning sisters desired to join their hearts nonetheless, interceded for the church and in faith believed that God would see us through this difficult time. It is truly not in how powerful sounding the prayers are but the posture of the person praying and the power of who that ultimately answers them that determines the outcome. Thanks be to God! By His grace and mercy, Grace Assembly overcame this crisis with strengthened faith.</p> <p>In v23-24, a spectacular but gory event happened. Because King Herod did not give praise to God, an angel struck him and he died being eaten by worms! But the word of God continued to increase and spread. God's mission simply would not be chained by circumstances and by the power of God and participation of the church, His mission continued to advance. In this circumstance of Covid19, will we as a church once again earnestly and humbly pray to seek fulfillment and advancement of His mission and will especially in such uncertain times – however that may look like?</p> |

APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

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| Adult: | Will you pray with your biological and/or spiritual family, and as a church seek the advancement of God's mission for such a time as this and consider how might you play a part in fulfilling it? |
| Youth: | Will you gather with your family and friends, who are Christian, to pray and ask for God to bring about His will in such a time and how you might be a participant of it? |
| Child: | What is one thing that you are worried about? Pray and ask Jesus to help you. |

PRAYER

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| Praying Scripture: | Great God, we as a church look to you in this time of Covid19. We call upon Your same power and sovereignty today as it was shown in Acts and ask for Your mission and will to continue to advance and for Your purposes to be established through us. |
| Thanksgiving Prayer: | I/We thank You for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc) |
| Intercessory Prayer: | I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc) |
| Salvation Prayer: | I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen. |