

# Prayer Unlocks a Prison

Read Acts 12:1–17; then use the words in the Word Bank to complete the story and the crossword puzzle.

Word Bank				
angel	gate	Jesus	Peter	Rhoda
chains	God	John	prayers	soldiers
door	Herod	Mark	prison	Jews

Evil King (12) \_\_\_\_\_ arrested (13) \_\_\_\_\_ and put him in prison because he wanted to please some of the (10) \_\_\_\_\_. They liked for him to persecute Christians.

The king planned to put his prisoner on trial as soon as the Passover celebration ended. Until that time, he ordered sixteen (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to guard the disciple.

All this made Peter's friends sad. They feared Herod and the Jews. "Only (1) \_\_\_\_\_ can deliver our friend," they said. "We must pray constantly for him."

On the night before the trial, the friends met for an all-night prayer meeting. While they prayed, Peter was asleep in (11) \_\_\_\_\_ double-chained between two guards. Suddenly a bright light shone and an (9) \_\_\_\_\_ stood by him.

"Quick! Get up," the angel said. "Get dressed and follow me." The (5) \_\_\_\_\_ fell from Peter's wrists and he followed, wondering if he was dreaming.

The outer iron (6) \_\_\_\_\_ swung open for them and they walked together a short way. Then the angel disappeared.

Peter stood for a moment. This was real. "The Lord sent an angel to rescue me," he said. With a thankful heart he hurried to the home of (10 down) \_\_\_\_\_, (8) \_\_\_\_\_'s mother. His friends were there praying for him.

Peter knocked at the door and a girl named (7) \_\_\_\_\_ came to answer. She recognized his voice and ran back inside. "It's Peter," she told them.

"That can't be," one said. "Maybe it's his angel. Maybe they've killed him." Peter knocked again and everyone went to answer the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ this time. How happy they were! How thankful that God had answered their (2) \_\_\_\_\_!

Peter told them what had happened, and they rejoiced together. Then he told them goodbye and left for a place where he'd be safe from the wicked king.

