

The Great Escape

Acts 12

Focus: calling us to trust in the unstoppable spread of God's Word through suffering, prayer, and judgment

Discussion:



Here is a link to challenging article by John Piper on small groups based on our passage:

<http://www.desiringgod.org/sermons/explosive-fellowship>

This a good quick read for all small group leaders!

- Read the passage and discuss what you learn about God and how he works in our lives. (this could take the whole time! Here are some more particulars to follow up with.)
- What insights and questions does this passage raise about suffering in the life of a believer? What hope does it offer to us when we do suffer? How do you live with realities like James' death and Peter's rescue?
- What role does prayer play in this story? How does this encourage or challenge you in your own prayer life? What would be a "next step" of growth for you in prayer in light of this passage?

- Why do you think God's judgment was so severe against Herod? (see Is. 42.8). How can this same sin creep into our lives? What comfort and hope comes from the reality of a future, just judgment of God?

- In light of everything else that occurs in this chapter, how is verse 24 an encouragement to you?

- What is the most encouraging thing for you in this chapter? How can you carry that truth with you in a way that strengthens your faith and obedience?

2014-2015 Acts Focus

To advance our church in our knowledge and experience of the Spirit in such a way that we will increasingly embrace His ministry in and through us, especially in witness.