

date: \_\_\_\_\_

This resource is designed to allow your family to have time in God's Word **BEFORE** your children attend church. Because God's plan is for **parents to be the primary spiritual nurturers** of their children's faith, *we want YOU to be the one to introduce* this part of The Big God Story to them.

For additional support in spiritual parenting and to learn more about creating transforming environments in your home, be sure to pick up **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource** from your church, or download it at HomeFrontMag.com. You can also access the HomeFront app on your iPhone, iPad, or Android device.



4.4

## God Answers Prayer

### Part of The Big God Story

Acts 12:1–19

Peter Delivered from Prison

### Just for Fun

Gather your family before bedtime and read **Acts 12:1–19**. Ask your children how God answered the people's prayers. Have each person share how he might have felt if he'd been Peter and an angel had set him free. Invite each family member to share a prayer request. Remember, nothing is too difficult for God! He always hears our prayers and answers them. He may not answer in the way we think He should, and He may not answer right away, but He does answer. After your discussion, take some time to practice the posture of kneeling in prayer as you bring your requests to God.

## Did You Know?

- King Herod Agrippa ruled over the Palestinian territory from A.D. 41–44 and was committed to maintaining *Pax Romana*—Latin for “Roman Peace.” This meant keeping the Jewish religious leaders happy or else risking the threat of an uprising.

- When the new church community began to welcome Gentiles, many in the Jewish community were outraged. To show solidarity with the Jews, Herod began to persecute the leaders of the early church (Acts 12:1).

- While Herod strategically planned to kill off the early church leaders and destroy the entire movement, he had no clue about the forces against him. Through prayer, the early church took the battle to God, and God miraculously intervened.

### Remember Verse

*So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*  
Isaiah 41:10

## Younger Kids

Your child may try to contest your decisions by asserting that “everyone else gets to do it.” Stay true to your convictions. Help your child understand the values behind your decisions.

## Older Kids

If you experience more “push back” than usual from your child, know it's a part of growing up and becoming more independent. Stay calm, and remember that you're the adult. Work through these trying times in a gentle and loving manner.

## Teachable Moments

**After reading Acts 12:1–19, discuss the following together:**

- How did God answer the prayers of His people?
- What was Peter's response to his miraculous release from prison?
- How have you seen God answer prayer in your own life?

## Blessing

For more information about blessing your child see the **Blessing** section in **HomeFront: A Spiritual Parenting Resource**.

**A blessing to pray over your child:**

(Child's name), **may you take every worry and every situation in your life to God. May you know that He listens to your prayers and answers you.**