

- **TELL THE BIBLE STORY: PEOPLE PRAYED FOR PETER**

- Assist kids in finding Acts in their Bibles. (Open a Bible to the middle. Then open the back half to the middle.) Direct kids to Acts 12:5. Encourage them to find the name *Peter* in the verse. Explain that today's Bible story is from Acts 12 and is about Peter.
- After Jesus had gone back to heaven, King Herod began to attack some of the church people. When he found out that Jesus' enemies were pleased with his actions, he arrested Peter. Peter was one of Jesus' disciples and a leader in the first church. The king put Peter in prison and commanded 16 soldiers to guard him. While Peter was in prison, the church prayed for him.  
One night Peter was asleep between two soldiers. Other guards stood by the door of the prison. Suddenly, an angel appeared. Light shone in the cell. The angel woke Peter and said, "Quick. Get up!" At that moment, the chains fell off Peter.  
"Get dressed, and put on your sandals," the angel said. As Peter obeyed, the angel told Peter to wrap his robe around him. "Follow me," the angel said.  
Peter thought he was dreaming, but he followed the angel. They passed all of the guards. When they came to a metal gate, the gate opened by itself! Peter and the angel went outside. Then the angel disappeared. When Peter realized that God had rescued him, he hurried to Mary's house. Several believers were there praying for Peter.

Peter knocked at the door of the outer gate. Rhoda, a servant girl, came to answer. When she heard Peter's voice, she was very excited and ran to tell the others. In her excitement, she forgot to let Peter inside!

The other people did not believe Rhoda at first, but she kept telling them Peter was there. And, Peter was still knocking on the door! When they finally opened the door and saw Peter, they were amazed. Peter told how God had rescued him from the prison. Before he left, Peter said, "Tell James and the other believers about this."

The next day, the soldiers could not find Peter in his cell. They searched and searched but could not find him. They did not know how he got out of prison. The king punished the guards, but Peter was safe.

—BASED ON ACTS 12:1-19

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

- Who put Peter in jail? (*the king*)
- How many soldiers were assigned to guard Peter? (*16*)
- What was Peter doing when the angel appeared? (*sleeping*)
- What was the church doing while Peter was in prison? (*praying*)
- What did the angel do for Peter? (*took him out of the prison*)
- What did Rhoda do when she heard Peter at the gate? (*ran to tell the others, but left Peter at the door*)
- When did the people believe Peter was at the door? (*when they opened the door*)
- How did God answer the prayer of the church people? (*rescued Peter*)