



PULPIT CURRICULUM

Trust God's Plan (Part 2) "God's Plan is Realized in Prayer"

July 18 - 24, 2021

Verse of the Week: Acts 12: 11

"When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

1. GOING DEEPER

Review Acts 12: 5-19

1a) It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the visible power of the world when all we have is prayer. Why is prayer such a powerful weapon?

1b) How does God use prayer to bring the Kingdom to the one praying?

2a) What shows Peter's confidence and trust in the Lord (vs 6-9)? Who else was able to sleep soundly in very difficult circumstances? Why?

2b) How does God answer our prayers according to Ephesians 3:20-21? Would this be true in the situation in Acts 12?

3a) What is your normal response to trials...do you respond or react? What posture do you take when faced with a trial...do you complain or place trust in God's power to provide and/or deliver?

3b) What would be the posture of a believer who is anticipating a favourable response from prayer?

2. ASSESS YOUR LIFE

1) How much does "earnest prayer" characterize a part of your life?



I usually struggle to pray daily.



I understand the importance of prayer and sometimes remember to do it.



I am growing in my effort to pray daily and try to set aside time to pray.



I am consistently setting aside daily time to pray and commune with God.



I am unceasing, unfainting and unlimiting with prayer as I believe it changes, things, people, and situations.

2) What may God be asking you to change, do differently, repent of or pray about as a result of engaging with this passage?

3. APPLICATION

1. What can you practically do to embrace and engage in fervent prayer?

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

2. Of the list above, which one(s) will you be intentional about working on this week?

I will ask _____ to hold me *accountable* in this.

Sermon Main Points

Sermon Reflection

Trust God's plan which is realized through prayer; remember to:

- Respond to trials with fervent prayer;
- Be confident in God's provision and power;
- Anticipate a favourable response when you pray.

"The word escape would suggest that it was Peter's plan and execution, whereas deliverance places the emphasis in the right place, on God"

What point/idea resonated most with you? Why?

How would you summarize/paraphrase the message in your own words?

5 Day Study Plan ("Study to show yourself Approved unto God...")

Day 1

1 Corinthians 10:13

What I learned (observation / interpretation):

How I will Respond (application):

Day 2

Romans 8:18

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 3

Philippians 4:6

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 4

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Day 5

John 16: 33

What I learned:

How I will Respond:

Inductive Bible Study



Observation (What does the text say?)

This phase is about observing exactly what the text is saying.

Pretend you're an investigator who's just gathering the facts. Ask yourself the five W's and H: (Who, what, where, when, why, how).



Interpretation (What does the text mean?)

Discover what the author is trying to communicate. And to do this, you need to look at the context to determine

- What is the **main theme** and what is the **meaning** of key words;
- Examine **cross references**
- Compare **translations**
- **Summarize** the text
- **Use** commentaries (last resort)



Application (How should this affect Me?)

Don't study the bible just for knowledge – study for application. If you stop at the interpretation stage, you are selling yourself short. Based on what you have learnt, ask yourself "How should this change the way I think, speak and behave?"

Seek to identify if there are - **Sins** to confess; **Promises** to claim; **Examples** to follow; **Actions** to obey or **Knowledge** to grow in.

For best results, this content should be read and prepared privately and then discussed in your small group or with family / friends.

We were not created to do life alone - get engaged today.

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