

Family Discipleship Resource

Mar 15-21

(Acts 12:18-25)



G – Gather for Prayer

Father,

You are the only One worthy of worship! Forgive me for worshipping anything/anyone else. Keep me faithful to your mission and your glory above all other things.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

R – Read the Text (Acts 12:18-25)

Now when day came, there was no small disturbance among the soldiers as to what could have become of Peter. When Herod had searched for him and had not found him, he examined the guards and ordered that they be led away to execution. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and was spending time there. Death of Herod. Now he was very angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon; and with one accord they came to him, and having won over Blastus the king's chamberlain, they were asking for peace, because their country was fed by the king's country. On an appointed day Herod, having put on his royal apparel, took his seat on the rostrum and began delivering an address to them. The people kept crying out, "The voice of a god and not of a man!" And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died. But the word of the Lord continued to grow and to be multiplied. And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their mission, taking along with them John, who was also called Mark.

O – Observe what God has said

What was the fate of the guards? What was Herod's fate? Why?

What was/is the fate of the gospel? Why?

W – Work on Application

This passage reveals that in the war between the Lord God and the false gods or would-be gods of this world, there is really no competition. False gods fall and the Lord God will always prevail. This passage reveals that in the ongoing battle between the mission of God and the agenda of the world, the gospel wins. The haughty will be humbled, the idolatrous will be identified, and the wicked will be walloped. This ought to give God's people the confidence they need to persist in the mission to which they have been called—even against all odds and all attempts to be sidelined or silenced. Just as the word of the Lord grew and was multiplied in the first century, so it can in the 21st century. Just as disciples were being made in Jerusalem, so too can they be made right here in Goochland.

What can kill confidence in the lives of believers today? What should believers remember when their confidence is in jeopardy?

How can we pursue disciple-multiplication efforts today?

Family Weekly Memory Verse: *"But the word of the Lord continued to grow and to be multiplied"—Acts 12:24*