

LESSON 8

PETER'S MIRACULOUS ESCAPE

OBJECTIVES

1. To understand that God is all-powerful and that He can help you through any difficulty.
2. To encourage the students to trust God by praying unceasingly for their problems.

MEMORY VERSE

"Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."

(1 Peter 5:6-7)

PRAYER

1. Thank You, Lord, for guiding us safely through another week.
2. We encounter many problems though the week: arguments with our friends and family, tests that worry us, and homework that we don't understand. Regardless of our problems, we thank You for listening to our prayers.
3. Your mercy and wisdom guide us and help us resolve our vexing situations.
4. We are so fortunate to have a wise and loving Father. Please continue to help us. Please continue to draw closer to us, and help us draw closer to You.



Overview

1. **Peter's Miraculous Escape**
 - a. King Herod Oppresses the Church
 - b. God Sends an Angel to Free Peter
2. **Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs**—One true God
3. **Life Application**—Trusting God in All Circumstances; God Is Our Refuge
4. **Activity**—Break the Code; A Picture Worth a Thousand Words



Background Knowledge for Teachers

A Profile of Peter

Name: Peter

Birth name: Simon [Jesus changed his name to Cephas, "A stone" (Jn 1:42). The English and German name "Peter" is derived from the Latin "Petrus" which means "rock."]

Occupation: Fisherman

Major events in Peter's life:

1. Jesus called him to be His disciple and become a "fisher of men" (Mt 4:19).
2. He walked on water with Jesus (Mt 14:28-31).
3. Witnessed Jesus' transformation on the mount (Mt 17:1-9).
4. Refused to have Jesus wash his feet (Jn 13:6-9).
5. Denied knowing Jesus three times (Lk 22:54-62).
6. Delivered a powerful sermon after receiving the Holy Spirit during the Pentecost (Acts 2:14-39).
7. Preached the gospel to Cornelius (Acts 10:34-48).



Reaching Out to Your Students

At this age, your students are further developing their self-image. As pre-adolescents, they will feel extremely self-conscious. They may appear cocky and self-assured, while experiencing low self-confidence.

Confidence is a wonderful thing to have. It is the certainty in your ability and circumstance. It gives you courage. It gives you the energy and boldness to face your problems. It may lead to happiness and satisfaction because you know that what you have done is right. It is very rare to hear someone complain that they have too much confidence.

As R.E. teachers, you should help your students develop in accordance with the word of God, the Bible. Jesus once told a parable of a wise man that built his house on the rocks and a foolish man that built his house on the sand. When the storm came, the rain, wind, and floods destroyed the foolish man's house. Jesus tells us that the wise man is one that hears the word of God and does it, while the foolish man is one that hears the word of God but does not do it. By building on the rock, the wise man has confidence that his house will endure through any rain, wind, or wave. This is the confidence that the students must develop: a confidence that gives them boldness to face any problem because they follow God's words. They can withstand any challenge because God cares for them and is with them.



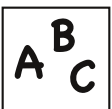
Opener

5 Minutes

[Before class, bring a jar with the lid closed tightly enough for you, but not the students, to open. During class, have the students take turns trying to open the jar. The students should not be able to open the jar. Ask the students what they should do. The students should suggest having the teacher open the jar or the teacher may suggest having an adult open the jar.]

Everyone has problems. Babies are often hungry and have dirty diapers that need to be changed. Children are bullied and have a lot of homework to complete. Adults have managers to please and families to manage. Some of these challenges may be so big that they do not appear to be solvable. When a person encounters a situation such as this, the person might get frustrated, angry, or depressed, because the problem is overwhelming.

Though our problems seem overwhelming, God can solve our problems. He is the Almighty, the Creator, the Alpha and Omega. Since He created the universe, He has the power to solve our problems. He is willing to solve our problems because He cares for us.



Vocabulary

humility: the quality or state of not thinking that you are better than other people: the quality or state of being humble

trust: assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something

confidence: a feeling or consciousness of one's power or reliance on one's circumstance

care: to feel interest or concern



Bible Discovery & Spiritual Teaching

30-35 Minutes

King Herod Oppresses the Church

The Jews saw the believers as a threat to their culture and their power. The Jews were the majority of the population. Beginning with the appearance of Jesus, the Jewish leaders saw this new movement as a threat to their power. Jesus

and the believers preached a doctrine that would put an end to the Mosaic Laws, which were central to the Jewish belief and culture. As a result, the Jewish leaders influenced the regional government to crucify Jesus. And now, they exerted their influence to have the regional

government arrest and execute the believers.

At the time, the Romans controlled Judea and placed Herod as king. To maintain control of the region, he allied himself with the Jews. Therefore, he opposed the church and allowed its harassment by the Jews. He had James, the brother of John, executed (Acts 12:2). After that, what else did he do?

Let's read Acts 12:3-4. When Herod saw that the Jews were happy when he killed James, he also arrested Peter. Herod threw Peter in prison and put four squads of soldiers to watch over him with the intention of bringing him before the Jews after Passover. Peter was shackled with two chains with two soldiers watching in his cell and some more guards keeping watch at the door (Acts 12:6).

God Sends an Angel to Save Peter

Let's continue to read verse 7. That night, while Peter slept in his cell, guarded by the soldiers, an angel of the Lord appeared in his prison cell with a light that shined in the prison. The angel struck Peter's side and said, "Arise quickly!" Immediately, the two chains fell off Peter's wrists. Peter followed the angel's instructions to put on his sandals and garments. The angel then led him out of the prison. Do you think that Peter knew what was going on? Let's see in verse 9. Peter thought that he was seeing a vision! He did not know that the angel was real and that he was being led out of prison. The angel then led him out of the prison and to the gate that led to the city, which opened to them on its own. After leading Peter down a street, the angel disappeared. It was at this moment that Peter realized what had happened. Let's read what he said in verse 11. He said, "Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people."

The entire time that Peter was in prison, the church had been praying for him unceasingly. Let's read verses 5 and 12. After escaping, Peter made his way to Mary's house where the church had been praying for him. Peter approached the door and knocked. A girl named Rhoda went to the door to answer it. When she heard Peter's voice, she became elated. In her joy, she forgot to open the door, and instead ran to the house to tell everyone that Peter was at the door. How did the people react? Let's find out in verses 15! That's right. No one believed her. The members believed that Herod had executed Peter, so they thought it was his angel that had come to the door. Being left at the door, Peter continued to knock. The members were shocked when they opened the door and saw Peter (Acts 12:16). Peter motioned them to keep quiet and told them of how the Lord had brought him out of prison. Peter instructed them to tell the other members of his miraculous escape then left for another place (Acts 12:17).

The next day, Herod was very angry. The soldiers could not explain how Peter had escaped. Herod sent soldiers to search for Peter, but could not find him. He questioned the guards, but they could not provide any answers. To punish them, he ordered their execution (Acts 12:19).

Everyone encounters problems. Many times, they are minor. Usually, we are able to solve the problems on our own. If we cannot, then we ask our friends for help or advice. But sometimes, the problems are much bigger. Even the collective intellect and wisdom of our friends and families cannot solve the problem. We get frustrated, angry, depressed, and succumb to our problems.

God is the solution to our problems. God is the Almighty, the Creator, the Alpha and Omega. He has the wisdom and power to solve all of our problems. He is willing to help us because He cares for us (1 Pet 5:6-7). If He was willing to sacrifice His life and die on the cross for our sins, He is more than willing to help us with our problems. We simply need to humble ourselves, pray, and ask for help (1 Pet 5:6; Phil 4:6-7).

In this lesson, Peter encountered an insurmountable problem. He was captured by King Herod and imprisoned. To ensure that he could not escape, the guards placed two heavy chains on his wrists, placed him between two guards, and stationed more guards outside his cell. Thus, to escape, he would somehow have had to remove the chains without the guards noticing and then subdue all of the guards. This was an impossible feat for a man.

"With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible" (Mt 19:26). While Peter was in prison, the members prayed continuously for him (Acts 12:5, 12). God heard the prayers of the members, and He sent an angel to rescue Peter. We need to believe in the power of prayer! The prayers of the members were answered, even as they prayed!

From this lesson, we should learn to entrust God with all of our problems. He turns the impossible into something possible. He is willing to help us because He cares for us.

FOR TEACHERS

Hand out both of the Bible Discovery Worksheets to the students now and go over both of them with the class. The answers are below.

Worksheet #1

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|---------------------------|----------|
| 1. enemies | 2. wicked | 3. famine | 4. death |
| 5. evil | 6. Satan | Conclusion: true, eternal | |

Worksheet #2

1. Wisdom and power
2. Strength and knowledge of God's love
3. Discernment
4. Spiritual understanding and knowledge of God's will



Linking to the Ten Basic Beliefs

2-5 Minutes

Salvation is the ultimate goal of every Christian. Unfortunately, salvation is impossible to obtain if left to our own means. We are all sinners and cannot achieve the level of perfection in holiness and love needed to obtain salvation. Thus, Jesus told His disciples, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible" (Mt 19:26). The standards for salvation are too high for man to achieve alone. Therefore, Jesus died on the cross to cleanse us from sin, and He gave us His Holy Spirit to help us maintain our purity and love. Through **Jesus Christ**, the impossibility of salvation becomes a possibility.



Check for Understanding

5 Minutes

- 1. Why did King Herod execute James and imprison Peter?** He wanted to harass those from the church. He first killed James, and when he saw that James' execution "pleased the Jews," he arrested Peter.
- 2. What measures were taken to keep Peter from escaping?** The guards placed two heavy chains on his wrists, placed him between two guards, and stationed more guards outside his cell (Acts 12:6).
- 3. Whom did God send to free Peter?** An angel (Acts 12:7).
- 4. What was Peter doing in prison when the angel found him?** He was sleeping (Acts 12:6).
- 5. While Peter was in prison, what was the church doing?** They were praying unceasingly (Acts 12:5, 12).
- 6. When the angel struck Peter on the side and gave him instructions, how did Peter react?** He followed the angel's instructions completely, but thought that he was seeing a vision.
- 7. When they came to the iron gate that led to the city, the angel departed from Peter. At that time, what did Peter realize?** He knew for sure that the Lord had sent His angel to deliver him from the hand of Herod.
- 8. Which house did Peter go to and knock? What is the name of the girl who came to answer?** He went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark; a girl named Rhoda came to answer.



Life Application

10 Minutes

1. Trusting God in All Circumstances—He is all-powerful and can help us through any difficulties!

Let's take a minute and think about what it is like to be in prison—a dark, dirty, cold, and confined dungeon—and unsure of what is going to happen next! How would you feel? Would you be scared? [Give students time to think, and then ask them to share their answers.] Interestingly, instead of frantically thinking about what was going to happen, Peter was sound asleep when the angel appeared to him in prison! How could he fall asleep when his life was in serious danger? [Pause for students to think.] What do you think? [Let students share their answers.] In fact, Peter didn't know that the angel was going to come nor did he know that God would help him escape. But one thing he knew, and was very confident about, was that no matter what the circumstance may be, God had everything taken care of! Whether it was to escape or be prison-bound, Peter knew that God had everything planned well for him.

In our lives, we also encounter problems and difficulties. It may be a difficult decision to make, or a situation that we don't know how to deal with. Oftentimes, we may not even see a solution to our problems. When Peter was in prison, he probably couldn't think of any way to escape. Would the authorities let him go? Probably not. Yet, Peter wasn't worried. He knew that if God had planned for him to do more, he would be able to get out in one way or another.

Today, when we feel stuck or trapped in a situation where we do not know how to move forward, rest assured that everything is in God's hands. Not only can His hands move mountains, they can also work miracles! No matter how big a problem may seem, it is never too big for God, who oversees the entire world! We need to place our trust in God—not that He will make things work the way we want, but that He will give us the best solutions according to His knowledge.

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #1. Read the story together with the students, and then go over the reflection questions and conclusion.]

Reflection Questions

1. **What did the brother pray about when he was in the traffic on the way back to the airport?** The brother prayed that God's will be done even though he didn't understand what it was. Ideally, he would like to be able to catch his flight, but he was ready to submit to God's will if he didn't.
2. **What happened to the plane that the brother missed?** It crashed.
3. **In the end, the brother was able to understand why God's plan was not for him to catch his flight. Do you know why?** Because God wanted to protect the brother's life. If the brother hadn't missed his flight, he would be traveling on the plane that eventually crashed. God saved his life!

Lastly, let's turn to a verse in the Bible [ask students to read aloud together]: Jeremiah 29:11. "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope." Students, God has a wonderful plan for each one of us. No matter what happens in our lives, we can rest assured that God is walking hand-in-hand with us and that He will not lead us on the wrong path. As long as we always submit ourselves to the word of God, we will know that we are in safe hands because God has promised to guide us every step of the way!

2. God Is Our Refuge

Here is another testimony of God's protection and abidance!

[Hand out Life Application Worksheet #2. Read the testimony with the students and then go over the reflection questions.]

Reflection Questions

1. **What kinds of dangers faced the preachers on this missionary trip?** They received death threats and faced the possibility of being robbed.
2. **What important preparation work did believers around the world do to help the holy work in Africa?** They prayed constantly for the preachers and advised them to wait for the timing of God.
3. **What do you think the believers prayed about to God?** They probably prayed for His will to be done and for protection for the preachers on their missionary trip.
4. **How do we know that God listened to all these prayers?** All the plots to harm the preachers failed and the preachers successfully held a Spiritual Convocation, where many wonders and miracles occurred.



Activity

1. Break the Code / 2. A Picture Worth a Thousand Words

10-15 Minutes

1. Break the Code

Objectives

1. To familiarize the students with verses of encouragement.
2. To remind the students to pray for others.

[Hand out the Activity worksheet to the students.]

Instructions: Using the provided Morse code alphabet, decode the following messages about trusting in God.

Answers

1. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Rom 8:31)
2. "Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you." (1 Pet 5:7)
"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding." (Pr 3:5)
3. "The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" (Ps 118:6)
4. "Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him." (Jas 1:12)

2. A Picture Worth a Thousand Words

Objective: To emphasize the trustworthiness of God.

Materials

- Blank white paper
- Cardboard box
- Markers
- Scissors
- Small container
- 2 cardboard paper towel rolls
- Colored Pencils
- Tape
- Slips of paper

Preparations

1. Cut two parallel slits in the cardboard box tall and wide enough for a roll of paper to be threaded smoothly through them.
2. Draw a "window" in the center, between the slits, and decorate the box using construction paper.
3. Cover the entire box, except the slits and the "window," and make the front of the box look like a television set. If desired, add foil antennae to the top of the box.
4. On slips of papers, choose and write passages describing situations that show the trustworthiness of God.
5. Fold and place the slips of paper in a small container.

Instructions

1. Distribute one blank sheet of paper to each student.
2. Have each student pick out a slip of paper from the container. Tell them not to show it to anyone.
3. They must read the passage and then draw one picture that sums up the story or that shows their favorite part.
4. When the students have finished their pictures, tape the sheets of paper into a continuous roll, with a blank sheet at each end.
5. Slip the paper through the slits in the cardboard box.
6. Tape each end of the roll of paper to one paper towel roll each, and then roll the paper up.
7. Ask for a volunteer to scroll the paper through the "window."
8. Follow with the activity below.

Have the students gather around the "television." Tell them that there is a special program playing on the "Bible Box" called "A Picture Worth a Thousand Words."

As the pictures "appear" on the "screen," the students will guess which story from the Bible is depicted, and then the student who drew it must explain why he or she decided to pick that scene to draw.

When all the pictures have been shown, ask the students what they think is the common theme of all the pictures. Try to steer them to recognize that they are all about the trustworthiness of God—how He saves His people, comes through for them, protects them, etc.

Tell the students that God wants us to know how He helped His people in the past, so we can trust in Him to help us today. No matter how small or big the situation, God wants His children to trust in Him to help them. Conclude with a prayer of thanks to God for His trustworthiness.

HOMEWORK ANSWER KEY

1. B
2. C
3. A
4. James
5. He was sleeping.
6. "Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people." (Acts 12:11)
7. They gathered together at Mary's house.
8. He left for another place.
9. He executed them.

Understanding God's Deliverance

The word "deliverance" in the Bible refers to God's acts of rescuing His people from evil or dangerous situations.

Let's think! What does God rescue us from? Let's look up the following passages and find out.

1. He rescues His people from their _____ (2 Kgs 20:6)

Famine

Wicked

2. He rescues us from the hand of the _____ (Ps 7:1-2).

3. He rescues us from _____ (Ps 33:19).

Enemies 

Death

4. He rescues us from _____ (Ps 22:19-21).

5. He rescues us from this present _____ age (Gal 1:4).

Satan

6. He rescues us from the power of _____ (Col 1:13).

Conclusion: He is the _____ God and _____ life (1 Jn 5:19-20).

Only God can deliver us and rescue us from eternal punishment.

**He is truly the only
Savior of mankind.**

The Power of Praying for others

WHAT IS INTERCESSION?

Intercession is a prayer that pleads with God for the needs of others. Do you know that you are being called upon to pray for other people—even people in the world whom you have never met? We all need to expand our circle of prayers to include those other than our selves, our family, and our friends.

1 Timothy 2:1-5 says, "Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus." We are exhorted to pray for others—including our country's leaders, our authorities at work and elsewhere, our church leaders, our co-workers, our friends, and our family.

Prayer is direct communication with God. Nothing is too trivial... or too big to pray for. Sometimes, we get overwhelmed by a situation, such as a sickness or a difficult problem, and feel as if there is nothing we can do to help. But there is! We can pray! Prayer can move mountains if we have the faith to do it!

In Acts 12, we see the prayers of a group of believers answered, even as they prayed! We should be people of faith who believe that God answers the prayers of those who seek His will.

Let's take a look at prayers in the Bible. Read the passages and match what the prayer is for from the words below.

Discernment

Wisdom

Knowledge of God's will

Spiritual understanding

Strength

Power

Knowledge of God's love

1. Ephesians 1:18-20 (NIV) says, "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength."

2. Ephesians 3:16-19 (NIV) says, "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

3. Philippians 1:9-11 says, "And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God." _____
4. Colossians 1:9 says, "For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding." _____

Be a Prayer warrior!

**God is calling Christians to join in intercessory prayer.
He is not looking for perfect prayer warriors, just willing hearts that want
to see His will come to pass on the earth.
All you have to do is turn to God and pray for others!**



Trusting God in All Circumstances—He is all-powerful and can help us through any difficulties!

A few months ago, a brother had to go to Singapore for a very important conference. He was his company's only representative that would attend this meeting. On the day the brother was leaving home to go to Singapore, he got to the airport and realized at the last minute that he had forgotten his passport at home! Frantically, he ran back to his car and drove home quickly for his passport. On the way home, the brother kept praying to God that he would not miss his flight because if he did, he would miss the conference and potentially be laid off by his company because of this big mistake.



After the brother got his passport from home, he drove back to the airport. On his way there, the brother got caught in bad traffic because of an accident that had happened ahead of him on the road.



When he found out what had happened, he knew that it was impossible for him to get on the flight and that he was going to miss the conference. During the time he sat in traffic, the brother prayed to God again, saying, "Dear heavenly Father, I know that everything happens for a reason according to Your divine plan. Even though I don't know why this is happening to me right now, I know that everything is in Your hands. Lord, I trust that You will guide me in everything ahead no matter what happens to my job."

After he prayed, the brother left a voice message with his boss, explaining what had happened and that he had missed his flight. But the brother didn't hear back from his boss all day. He thought to himself, "Is my boss mad at me? Or is he just busy today...?"



The next morning, the brother finally received a callback from his boss. He was very nervous when he picked up the phone. Surprisingly, the first thing that his boss said to him was, "How are you? Are you okay?!" The brother was confused. He asked him, "What do you mean? I'm home... I missed my flight yesterday." His boss answered, "Is that right? That's great. I'm glad you're safe." In the end, the brother found out that the flight that he had missed the day before had crashed. It was all over the news, but the brother did not find out until his boss called. Even though the brother was not able to make it to his company's meeting in Singapore, he didn't lose his job. Instead, his boss was amazed to find out from the brother that it was not a coincidence that he was not on the plane that crashed—it was God's protection that prevented him from going on that flight!

God Is Our Refuge

Two preachers were sent by the International Assembly as missionaries to Nigeria from January 19 to March 4, 1984.

Three months before the trip, they continually prayed for God's guidance. Many brothers and sisters in England, America, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia were also deeply concerned about the evangelical work in Africa, and they prayed for the preachers every day. Therefore, the Holy Spirit guided their footsteps and protected them in peace, and the grace of God poured down abundantly their entire journey. This is an account of God's merciful protection as the preachers worked for the Lord.

Five months before the trip, one of the preachers received a threatening letter. It was from a former leader of the church in Nigeria who had fallen because of his greed for money. The letter stated that he would kill the preacher if the preacher ever came to Nigeria again.

Originally, the preachers had intended to make the missionary trip in September 1983, but their families and the brothers and sisters in the church cautioned them to wait for the timing of God. Therefore, they decided to wait upon God in prayer until His will was fulfilled in January 1984.

When the preachers arrived in Nigeria, their hearts were troubled and fearful. They knew the dangers they might encounter, so they prayed even more earnestly for God's guidance.

Praise the Lord, because they witnessed the mighty power of God and His abundant grace, the downpouring of the Holy Spirit and the manifestation of various miracles and visions during the first two weeks, the preachers' courage and boldness to proclaim the gospel greatly increased.

The words spoken by the Lord to apostle Paul continued to ring in their ears:

"Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city" (Acts 18:9-10).

To avoid danger, the preachers decided not to work in the district where that former church leader lived. However, members and ministers in that district urged them to go, encouraging them not to be afraid, for the Lord would protect them. Finally, two days of Spiritual Convocation were held there.

The Spirit of God moved the village chief in that place to receive the preachers. At the same time, they had great cooperation from the local police, who caught the fallen leader and commanded him to return all the property that he had stolen from the church. Moreover, a policeman was sent to protect them throughout the Spiritual Convocation so that the holy work could progress peacefully.

Under the mighty hand of God, during the two-day Spiritual Convocation, twenty received baptism, twenty-four received the Holy Spirit, forty-three experienced visions, and eleven were healed from their diseases. Hallelujah! Praise God!

In the middle of February, the preachers faced danger again but the Lord delivered them. Another leader, who had also fallen away because of greed, found out that the preachers would be in a certain village on February 23. He bribed a policeman to rob them but the Lord moved the preachers to change their visit to February 24—a day later. As a result, the wicked plan of the fallen leader failed.

From these experiences, the preachers deeply felt that as long as the Lord was with them, even in the most dangerous situations, they would find peace and security. On the contrary, if the Lord was not with them, no matter how safe a place was, harm or evilness could still come. The preachers also realized that whenever the work of God is active, the opposition of Satan would also be strong there. However, they learned that they should not be discouraged nor retreat; instead, realizing that God has greater work ahead, they should bravely go forward to fight a good fight for the Lord (2 Tim 1:7-8; Jas 4:7).

(Adapted from Living Water, Fall 1984)

Break the Code

Morse Code Alphabet

A . -	B - . . .	C - . - .	D - . .	E .	F . . - .
G - - .	H	I . . .	J . - - -	K - . -	L . - . .
M - - -	N - .	O - - -	P . - - .	Q - - . -	R . - .
S . . .	T -	U . . -	V . . . -	W . - -	X - . . -
Y - . - -	Z - - . .				

These people need our encouragement and prayers. Decode the encouragements and write down what you will say in your prayers to God for them.

1. A preacher on a missionary assignment says, "There are members of another church who are trying to stop us from evangelizing."

"If (- - . - - - - . .) is (. . . . - - - . . .) us, who can be (. - - - . - -) us?" (Rom 8:31)

2. A parent who has lost his/her job says, "If I lose this job, how are we going to pay the rent?"

"Casting all your (- . - . . - . - . .) upon Him, for He (- . - . . - . - . . .) for you." (1 Pet 5:7)

"Trust in the (. - . . - - - . - . - . .) with (. - . - . . . - . . .) your heart, and lean not on your own (. . - . - . - - . - . - . -) ."

3. A friend who is getting pressured to do bad things says, "They keep pressuring me every day at school."

"The Lord is on (- - - . - - -) side; I will not (. - . -). What can (- - . - . - .) do to me?" (Ps 118:6)

4. Brothers and sisters in the Lord who are being persecuted say, "The situation is getting more dangerous day by day."

"Blessed is the man who (. - . - - . -) temptation; for when he has been (. - . - . . . - . - . - - . . . - . -), he will receive the (- . - - . - - - . - - . - . .) of life which the Lord has (. - - - . - - - - - - . . .) to those who love Him." (Jas 1:12)

E2 Year 3 Book 1 Lesson 8—Peter's Miraculous Escape

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Weekly Bible Reading: _____

Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

Prayer: Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (1 Peter 5:6-7)

Multiple Choice

1. _____: King Herod arrested Peter and threw him into prison because _____.
 - a. He wanted to find out more about Jesus.
 - b. He wanted to bring him before the Jews to be judged after the Passover.
 - c. He thought that Peter disobeyed the law.
2. _____: When Peter arrived at the gate that led to the city, _____.
 - a. The gate was locked, so he couldn't leave.
 - b. The angel opened the gate so that Peter could leave.
 - c. The gate opened by itself.
3. _____: When Rhoda went to the door and heard Peter's voice, she _____.
 - a. Went back to tell everyone that Peter was there before opening the door
 - b. Immediately opened the door and let Peter in
 - c. Became afraid because she couldn't believe that Peter was out of the prison

Short Answer

4. Name another apostle who was executed by King Herod.
5. What was Peter doing when the angel of the Lord appeared in his prison cell?
6. What did Peter say when he realized what had happened?
7. Where was the church praying for Peter when he was in prison?
8. What did Peter do after he told other members of his miraculous escape?
9. How did King Herod punish the soldiers who guarded Peter's cell in prison?