



## Family Battle Plan

A discipleship pathway to assist parents in engaging their children on their journey of faith

### **Week 8: Community and World**

#### Older Preschool

##### **Theme Verse**

*“God will help you be his witnesses.” (Acts 1:8).*

##### **Objective**

God helps people to do His work.

##### **Teach**

Have you ever been in trouble and punished when you did not do anything wrong? (Allow the children to tell what happened. Try not to correct them, just listen.) Today, we learn in Acts 12:5–19 about one of Jesus’s special friends—Peter. When the king found out that Peter was preaching the Gospel, he was arrested and scheduled to be put to death. The king treated Peter like he was a bad man. They put Peter in prison with two chains and 16 guards, and four of the guards watched him at all times.

One night, while Peter was sleeping, the angel of the Lord came to Peter. A bright light shown in his cell. The angel told him to get up, put on his sandals and coat, and follow him. When Peter stood up, the chains fell off. They passed two guards. Next was an iron gate. How do you think the gate might sound when they opened it? (Allow the children to make a squeaking noise.) Do you think someone would hear and find out that Peter was escaping? I would think so too!

After they were outside, the angel disappeared. Peter thought this was a dream, but it was really happening. When he realized it was not a dream, he went to the house where the church was meeting. He knocked on the door. (Make a knocking sound.) Rhoda, the servant girl, went to the door. She became very excited because she recognized Peter’s voice. Rhoda told the people who were praying that Peter was at the door. They did not

believe her. Peter kept knocking at the door. When they went to the door, there was Peter. Everyone was so excited. Peter had to motion for the people to be quiet. He then told them how God had helped him.

Our verse this week is, *“God will help you be His witnesses.”* Acts 1:8. Repeat the verse several times. Use or pretend to use a magnifying glass. Look up and say the verse. Look down and say the verse. Look to the left and say the verse. Look to the right and say the verse.

### **Discussion Questions**

- Why did we use a magnifying glass to say our verse? (Because a witness might look at things better with one. It makes things look bigger and clearer.)
- Why was Peter in prison? (For telling people about Jesus.)
- How did Peter get out of jail? (The angel of the Lord woke him up and led him outside.)
- What was the church doing during this time? (Praying)
- Why? (They were doing this to ask God to help Peter.)
- There will be times when we need help. What should we do? (Trust God and pray.)
- What if it is a friend of yours who needs help? (Pray for them and do what you can.)

### **Play**

Make a Prayer Chain

Materials:

- Strips of paper
- Pen or marker
- Tape or stapler

Directions:

- Give each person several strips.
- Have them write or ask an adult to write something or someone’s name on the strip.
- Have the person tell why they wrote that person or thing on their strip. How should we pray for them?
- Connect the strips using the tape or stapler.
- Hang the Prayer Chain where you will see it each day.
- Each day, remove a strip and pray for that request.
- Remind the family that prayer is one way we can help others.

### **Sing**

[“Tell the World”](#)

## **Live it Out**

We talked about Peter and the church. We learned the church helped Peter by praying for him when he was in jail. We are learning that we can help others by praying for them.

## **Closing Prayer**

Jesus, thank You that we can come to You in prayer and that You hear and answer us. Please help us to be Your witnesses even when it is hard. Help us to pray for those who tell others about You. In your name we pray, amen.