

6. Was there a key point from the message that you would like to discuss, or expand upon?



Key Thought(s)

You are not _____ until _____ says
you are _____!



Personal Reflection

1. What encouragement has this story given you for your own prayer life? Will it shape your prayers differently?
2. How did this study challenge the way you've been viewing God? Yourself? Prayer?
3. How would you compare the teaching in these verses with the way you are now living?



For Next Week

In part nine of the series, we read some interesting facts about the way God interacts with us in our prayers, especially in those moments when prayer becomes difficult. Join us for *When Words Fail*, next Sunday right here at Village Green Community Church!



Really?

Acts 12:6-19

To hear the message this study is based on go to the sermons page at www.vgchurch.org; or subscribe at the iTunes store under Village Green Community Church. You can also join us on our Facebook page or follow us on twitter.



Life Group Study Notes

Hear Us Now Sermon Series



Theme of this Week's Message

In today's message we look at a miraculous deliverance that has both a sobering and humorous lesson. There is often a tension when we pray between the questions of "Can He" versus "Will He?" The story that is part of our lesson today helps us to understand that even the early believers struggled with doubt when they prayed.



This Week's Memory Verse(s)

⁷ For the angel of the LORD is a guard; he surrounds and defends all who fear him. ⁸ Taste and see that the LORD is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in him!

Psalm 34:7-8 NLT



Study

Take time to read all of chapter 12 for an understanding of the wider context.

1. Jesus talked openly about the persecution and hardship His followers would experience (Lk 11:49-51). This story is told in part to show how the words of Jesus came to pass. We also are honouring the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. To begin this study talk about persecution and the reasons why we need to take this matter seriously, even though we are so removed from it in our culture?

2. How easy is it to allow doubt into our prayers? How does this story encourage us when it comes to the topic of doubt?
3. Take time and recount the humorous elements of this story. Have you ever experienced an answer to prayer that was funny?
4. In the message there were two main points given as lessons from this story. What were they and take time to discuss both.
 - a. Prayer is the _____ response to a _____
 - b. We do not _____ the _____ of our prayers, only their _____
5. The text of verse 16 says that the people who had been fervently praying for Peter were *amazed* when he arrived on their doorstep. What affect would this have on the prayer lives of these people in the days to come? Have you ever felt energized in your prayer life from times of amazing answers to prayer?