

## Mini-Series Growing in Gratitude

# When I Pray For You

Acts 12:1-5 (6-17)

### **Introduction:**

**Prayer** –is where we practice entering into the presence of God. It is the place where pride is abandoned, hope is lifted, and supplication is made. Prayer is affirming God’s sovereignty, righteousness, and majesty. It is where we seek to conform our desires and our purpose to His will and glory.

### **I. Prayer and God’s Children**

- a. God opened the door to His throne room and invited His children in Heb 4:16
- b. God promised to hear us when we call Jer 33:3
- c. He also promised to answer our prayers 1 Jhn 5:14-15

### **II. It was a Time of Problem vss. 1-5a**

#### *a. There were attacks*

- i. James had been put to death
- ii. Peter had been arrested waiting to be put to death

#### *b. There was Worry*

- i. The Church didn’t know what the future held
- ii. They had left their Jewish roots to follow Christ

#### *c. There was an Enemy*

- i. Herod killed James and arrested Peter
- ii. The real enemy was Satan, he organized and empowered this persecution

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### III. It was a Time of Prayer v.5b

- a. It was Fervent Prayer Jas 5:16
- b. It was Faithful Prayer Heb 11:6
- c. It was Focused Prayer
- d. It Was Family Prayer

### IV. It was a Time of Power vss. 6-17

- a. *There was Powerful Salvation* vss. 7-10
  - i. When the Church prayed, God heard them and answered their prayers
  - ii. God is able to so much more than we have ever seen Him do Eph3:20
- b. *There was Powerful Surprises* vss. 12-17
  - i. When Peter was released he went to John Marks home
  - ii. Rhoda was surprised it was Peter, so surprised that she didn't even open the door.
  - iii. The Church didn't believe her – But this is what the Church had been praying about.
  - iv. This is us today – praying to God with little expectation of Him answering Matt 17:20

### When I Prayer for You Thing's Change:

Name:

Prayer Need:

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