

SO PETER WAS KEPT IN PRISON,  
BUT THE CHURCH WAS  
EARNESTLY  
PRAYING  
TO GOD ←→ FOR HIM.  
ACTS 12:5



**THE PARISH OF CHALFONT ST PETER**  
Encounter God, Encourage Others, Engage our World  
Charity Number: 1146043



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# FOUNDATION CAFÉ SERVICE

9th July 2017

## Peter's Mission

### Peter Escapes From Prison



**CHALFONT  
ST. PETER  
PARISH CHURCHES**

### **Know What:**

- This week we are starting a new series learning about Peter and the things he did after Jesus rose from the dead. Today we are learning about Peter's miraculous escape from prison.
- Being part of the early church was very dangerous. Many people were killed or imprisoned for believing in Jesus. Around Passover one year Peter was arrested and put in prison.
- When Peter went into prison the church prayed for him; they prayed passionately and earnestly.
- Just before Peter was going to be handed over to the people for punishment an angel appeared to him in his cell. The angel told him to get up and lead him out of prison unharmed.
- Peter ran away to a friend's house where he was let in by one of the servants, Rhoda.

### **So What:**

- Prayer works. God hears us and acts on it. We should be earnestly praying just like the early church did.

### **Now What:**

- Let us be confident in going to God with the things that we care about, whether it is for ourselves or for others.
- Let us come together to pray, encouraging and supporting each other with our prayers.

## **LUKE'S LETTERS:**

I can't imagine what it would be like to be in the early church. I'm pretty sure that it would be terrifying. They were imprisoned, tortured and killed, all for believing in Jesus. Sadly this still happens around the world today.

It is so easy for us in the UK to see Christianity as a source of 'good morals', going to church is not a risk, we are safe and secure to believe or not as we wish. For others being part of a church, praying, or faith in Jesus is life-threatening on a daily basis.

The early church's solution to this problem was to pray. To trust God that He is greater than the persecutors, greater than their problems. So too we can pray for those who are endangered by their faith, for those who risk everything to own a Bible, or go to church.

Open Doors is a charity which supports the persecuted church worldwide, they offer suggestions for prayer, petitions and opportunities to write letters to Christians around the world. Why not have a look at their website this week and find a part of the world to pray for where the church is growing in the face of adversity.