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The Power of Prayer

The book of Acts records the history of the early church. Acts 1:14 finds them meeting together after Jesus' resurrection, continuing "with one accord in prayer and supplication". The Holy Spirit filled the disciples and they set out to fulfill Jesus' words in Acts 1:8. The early days of the church were full of the apostles teaching doctrine, prayer, fellowship, shared resources, unity, power, signs and wonders, rejoicing, and the church grew as people were saved and baptized. Acts 4 again finds the church in need of God's help and as they "raised their voice to God with one accord...the place where they assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit."

Throughout the history of the early church, and sometimes very often, things happened that once again proved a challenge to the believers.

Acts 12 opens with James being killed, Peter in prison, and Herod triumphing. There was a very real danger that Peter would be the next to be killed, and perhaps many of them felt their own life and faith in danger. Acts 12:5 records for us that constant prayer was offered to God for Peter by the church.

At the end of chapter 12 we find Herod dead, Peter free, and "the word of God grew and multiplied". As the believers continued to mourn the loss of James, they rejoiced at God's response to their prayers for Peter and they continued on in the mission of Acts 1:8.

Today, no matter what circumstances you find yourself in, remember that prayer is powerful and that according to James 5:16, the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous person accomplishes much - and you are righteous because of your position in Christ.

You can also find this article published on [The Power of Prayer](#), and on the tag pages [Acts 1:14](#), [Acts 1:8](#), [Acts 12](#), [Acts 4](#), [Herod](#), [James](#), [James 5:16](#), [Peter](#), [prayer](#), [righteousness](#).