

## FOR SMALL GROUPS OR PERSONAL STUDY

Welcome! Today, we are continuing in our message series: *Exploring the Book of Acts*. In this study of early Church history, you will be enlightened and encouraged by the power of the gospel as it spread throughout the world and transformed lives.

**After reading Acts 12, take a few minutes during group time to summarize the text and then talk about what stood out most.**

### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ Church:

What was happening in the Church? How was this situation similar but different than in the past?

What stood out most, regarding Herod's character?

Have you ever experienced hostility from the world because of your faith in Jesus?

### 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ Church:

How did the Church respond to persecution? Talk about how you typically respond to crisis situations.

How did Peter handle the situation? What does that tell you about Peter? What can we learn from him?

### 3. The \_\_\_\_\_ Church:

What happened to Herod? Why?

**Review the six application lessons below and then talk about each one.**

- 1.) You don't have to wait until \_\_\_\_\_ to start sleeping.
- 2.) Prayer is the \_\_\_\_\_ channel through which God often chooses to \_\_\_\_\_ His power.
- 3.) God answers prayer dramatically...\_\_\_\_\_.
- 4.) Your story of \_\_\_\_\_ is meant to be \_\_\_\_\_ with others.
- 5.) Herod's painful departure is a \_\_\_\_\_ of what will happen in the end to those who oppose God.
- 6.) Despite opposition, God's Word continues to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.