

At Home Weekly is designed for you to use during the week with your son or daughter. You'll find out what they learned today at church, and can help them prepare for next week by exploring the theme (or Ponder Point) and spending time together in God's Word.

WHAT WE LEARNED THIS WEEK

PONDER POINT: GOD'S SPIRIT UNIFIES, PART 2

Peter and Cornelius

Acts 10—11

God knew Cornelius wanted salvation, so God miraculously intervened. First, He sent an angel to speak to Cornelius. Then God sent a vision to Peter, who had spent his life following the Jewish (kosher) dietary rules. In this vision, God told Peter to eat non-kosher food. When Peter refused, God said, "Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." While Peter was trying to figure that out, the Holy Spirit told Peter to go with the men who had come looking for Him. "I have sent them," God said. And that is how Peter, an observant Jew, had the privilege of leading Cornelius's entire Gentile household to faith in Jesus.

WHERE WE'RE HEADED NEXT TIME

PONDER POINT: GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

Peter Delivered from Prison

Acts 12:1–17

King Herod Agrippa wanted to keep his throne, so he appeased the Jewish religious leaders by killing the apostle James. That was so successful that he also imprisoned Peter, intending to try and kill him as well. But the believers interceded in prayer and God miraculously released Peter from prison. His chains fell off as an angel accompanied him out of the jail. God answered the prayers of the believers and delivered Peter. God still answers prayer and delivers His saints.

DID YOU KNOW?

Share these facts to get the conversation started.

- The King Herod in Acts 12 is Herod Agrippa, the grandson of Herod the Great, who was king when Jesus was born. He was also the nephew of Herod Antipas, the King Herod who played a role in Jesus' trial before the crucifixion.
- King Herod Agrippa ruled over the Palestinian territory from A.D. 41–44 and was committed to maintaining *Pax Romana*—Latin for "Roman Peace." This meant keeping the Jewish religious leaders happy or else risking the threat of an uprising.
- To appease the Jewish religious leaders, Herod persecuted the leaders of the early church (Acts 12:1).

CONNECT AS A FAMILY

Gather your family before bedtime and read **Acts 12:1–19** (**Fire Bible*, pp. 1367-1368). Ask your children how God answered the believers' prayers. Have each family member share how he might have felt if he'd been Peter and an angel had set him free. Invite each family member to share a prayer request. Remember, nothing is too difficult for God! He always hears our prayers and answers them. He may not answer in the way we think He should, and He may not answer right away, but He does answer. After your discussion, take some time to practice the posture of kneeling in prayer as you bring your requests to God.

After reading the Scripture passage, discuss these questions together:

- How did God answer the prayers of His people for Peter?
- What was Peter's response to his miraculous release from prison?
- How have you seen God answer prayer in your own life?

These questions can easily extend into the rest of the week. Look for opportunities to bring conversations about how God answers prayer into your everyday life as a family.

REMEMBER VERSE

The Remember Verse focuses on a character trait of God that's highlighted in next week's portion of The Big God Story.

**So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed,
for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you;
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.**

Isaiah 41:10

BLESSING

Blessings are often used in the Bible. A blessing can be a prayer of commission, a portion of Scripture, or words to encourage and guide.

A blessing to pray over your child:

Child's name), **may you take every worry and every situation in your life to God in prayer. May you know that He listens to your prayers and answers you. May you hear the voice of the Holy Spirit as you pray.**

For more information about blessing your child, go <https://trufirecurriculum.com>. And for more creative ideas on spiritually leading your family, visit HomeFrontMag.com.

