

Prayers That Count

(Acts 12:1-17)

Introduction

America society is characterized by busy-ness.

Work
Family
School
Extra-Cirricular
Recreation
Miscellaneous

Recently, we completed a small group study entitled, "Too Busy Not To Pray." That describes our culture perfectly.

Too often we wait until things are desperate!!

Contextualize sermon text (Acts 12).

Contextualize this sermon.

I. The Impossible Situation (12:1-5a)

A) Imprisoned (12:4a)

B) Surrounded (12:4b)

C) Doomed (12:4c)

Note: We all face brilliant opportunities brilliantly disguised as an impossible situation.

Note: God allows impossible situations to drive us to our knees in prayer.

II. The Intercession of the Saints (12:5)

- A) Confident (12:5b) “but”
- B) Continuous (12:5c)
- C) Corporate (12:5d) “church”
- D) Specific (12:5e)

III. The Intervention of the Savior (12:6-11)

- A) Right timing (12:6-7)
- B) Smacked of the supernatural (12:8-10a)
- C) Required participation (12:10b-11)

IV. The Indictment of the Saints (12:12-17)

- A) Reacted in Astonishment (12:12-16)
- B) Restricted God’s options (12:15)

Conclusion