

## Lesson 5-3-20

**Theme:** This week we continue the theme of the church in the New Testament by learning about some people in the book of *Acts*. This week we will learn about Peter, one of the Disciples who was put in prison for his faith and freed by an angel to continue to spread the good news of Jesus.

**Story to Read:** From the website, "Bible Fun for Kids"

King Herod had Peter arrested and put him in prison and then Peter was taken to four squads of soldiers (16 men) to guard him while they waited for him to be brought to trial.



Peter was kept in prison, but the Christians were constantly praying to God. Luke tells us in verse 5 that the church was praying for Peter. A church building can't pray. The people are the church.



Peter was asleep the night that King Herod was ready to take him out of prison to go before the people. He was between two soldiers and was tied up with two chains. There were also guards at the door of the prison.

An angel from God stood by Peter, and there was a light shining in the prison. The angel hit Peter in the side and sat him up telling him to "Hurry, get up!" The chains fell off of Peter's hands.



The angel told him to get dressed and put on his sandals. When Peter was ready, the angel said "Put on your coat and follow me." Peter followed the angel, but he wasn't sure if what the angel had done was real, he thought the angel might be a vision!



The angel and Peter went past the first and second guard posts and they came to the iron gate that lead into the city. The gate opened by itself and they went out and went down one street, then the angel left.

Peter finally realized he wasn't dreaming and knew that God had sent one of His angels to help him! The angel saved Peter from King Herod and the Jewish people that wanted to kill Peter.

### **Activities**

1. Coloring Sheet – Attached is a coloring sheet of Peter and the angel in prison as his chains are broken.
2. Make chains – You will need strips of paper and tape. Write on 3 of the strips on paper the words “Pray” “for” “Peter” and then make a paper chain and talk about how with people praying for him, Peter was freed from his chains in prison. The children can then say a prayer and break the chains.
3. Peter’s sandals – You will need brown cardboard, scissors, and string or yarn. Trace your child’s feet on the cardboard and cut it out. Punch three holes in the soles and attach the string to make thong-type sandals. While working on this activity, recall how Peter put on his sandals and escaped from prison.