

Potential Discussion Questions

10-13-19 Message: Progress Amid Opposition, pt 2 (Ac 12:1-25)

1. What opposition to the gospel have you observed? What have you experienced?
2. Of the statistics on global persecution shared in the message, which was most striking or shocking to you? Why?
3. We see lots of government by public opinion (what makes the electorate happy) in our day. How is this a continuation of Herod's practice? Why was Herod oppressing Christians?
4. Put yourself into the emotions and responses of the people in this text. What do you see? What do you identify with or respond to or most strongly?
5. What does this passage teach us about prayer in the church? How does it challenge you? What does it reveal about how to pray for the persecuted church?
6. How do you avoid going through the motions in prayer? How do you keep fervent in prayer?
7. This is a really exciting account of God's power and ability to deliver. But God doesn't always deliver us out of our adversity. How do you hold this tension in your walk of faith?
8. We also see an immediate intervention of God's justice in dealing with Herod. God does not always bring justice so immediately. What do you learn about His justice in this text? Why is it good that justice is not always immediate?
9. Read Psalm 37. How does David deal with God's justice in this text? How can this help us in times when opposition and oppression swirl around us?
10. What is the important reminder in verse 24? How does this encourage you in our current world environment?
11. Share a specific prayer request related to this study and then pray for these together. (Include your prayers for the persecuted, suffering church.)