

# ACTS EMPOWERED FOR JESUS'S MISSION

Sunday, April 30, 2023 | Wawasee Bible | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

## Part 24 | **Have Faith, He Can Do It**

Acts 12:1-19

### In the face of the **IMPOSSIBLE** (v. 1-5)

**persecution & opposition** v. 1-3

**oppression & bondage** Exodus 2:25

### God is **ALWAYS ABLE** to intervene (v. 6-11)

**we can sleep** Matthew 6:25; Philippians 4:6; Psalm 3:5; 4:8; 127:2

**because he never does** Psalm 121:3-4; Isaiah 40:28

### and **DO** the impossible! (v. 12-19)

**ask in faith** James 1:5-8; 4:2-3; 1 John 5:13-15

**trust God's power** Ephesians 3:20-21



**Text us at 833-271-8805.**

Text this number anytime for prayer. Just say, "**Pray for...**" followed by your request.

Or if you just need someone to talk to, start texting us with whatever's going on and someone will be in touch via text.

## Who is That?

Do you ever get confused by names in the Bible? **You're not alone**... Here's a guide to those who show up in Acts 12:

**Herod** (v. 1) There's a handful of "Herods" in the New Testament and they're all related (it gets weird in a hurry)... The title "Herod" means *heroic* or *son of a hero*. The Herod in view here is Herod Agrippa the First, grandson of Herod the Great who tried to kill baby Jesus.

**James (Brother of John)** (v. 2) "James" and "Simon"s are the "Bob" and "Tom"s of the NT era. This is James the Disciple who grew up in Bethsaida, he was close w/ Peter, John, & Jesus.

**James (Brother of Jesus)** (v. 17) This James, mentioned by Peter, was Jesus's younger brother. He became a leader in the early church and is the author of the NT book of James.

**Peter** (v. 3ff) The apostle. He also went by Simon, Simon Peter, and Cephas.

**Mary (Mother of John, aka Mark)** (v. 12) This Mary (one of *many* in the NT) evidently had a large enough home to need a gate & with plenty of room for the church to meet in, she was likely wealthy and influential.

**Mark (aka John or John Mark)** (v. 12) Mary's son. He was young, travelled with Paul, Barnabas, & Peter and authored the Gospel of Mark. Check out his cameo in Mark 14:51-52!

**Rhoda** (v. 13) Her names means "Rose", and she's known for making Peter wait outside!

**Blastus** (v. 20) Herod's personal assistant/ chief of staff. One of the coolest names ever.

**Barnabas** (v. 25) The "Son of Encouragement", he was a great leader in the early church.

**Saul (aka Paul)** (v. 25) The vast majority of the rest of Acts will focus on the Gospel ministry initiated by this former Pharisee.



## Study Guide

Questions & Scripture for Further Study

**What is this?** — Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, & live life together. **We call them Life Groups.** The questions here are based on the sermon each week (often a related part of Scripture), and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a Life Group, let us know on a Connect Card or at the Connect Desk!

### Welcome to Life Group!

#### Getting to Know You

One goal of Life Groups is to get to know one another and engage in conversation. Along those lines, here's a random question to discuss and *break the ice* as you get going: *Which celebrity have people said you resemble?* — **Also:** *Did you ever buy a Ginsu knife back in the day? :)*

**Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching,** *was there anything you heard for the first time, that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?*

### Digging Deeper

**Use this guide for further personal and group study this week.** For the most impact in your life and in your group, *work through it on your own before you gather with your Life Group.* If your Life Group isn't gathering this week, use this guide for further study personally.

1. There's a number of definitions of faith. How would you define it?
2. Pastor Larry Osborne defines biblical faith as "trusting God enough to do what He says." That's pretty good! In **John 4:43-54**, we read about Jesus healing the son of a government official. Study it below. In what ways do you see Larry's description of faith reflected in the official's response to Jesus?

- **Circle or highlight** any words or phrases that catch your attention.
- **Underline** what you think is important to remember.
- **Put an X** next to anything that confuses you.

<sup>43</sup> After the two days he departed for Galilee. <sup>44</sup> (For Jesus himself had testified that a prophet has no honor in his own hometown.) <sup>45</sup> So when he came to Galilee, the Galileans welcomed him, having seen all that he had done in Jerusalem at the feast. For they too had gone to the feast.

<sup>46</sup> So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. <sup>47</sup> When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. <sup>48</sup> So Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe." <sup>49</sup> The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." <sup>50</sup> Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. <sup>51</sup> As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. <sup>52</sup> So he asked them the hour when he began to get

*(Study Guide continues on back panel...)*

# Welcome to Wawasee!

## OUR MISSION

We are sent to love people and invite them to follow Jesus with us.

## YOUR PATHWAY

If you call Wawasee Bible "home", we challenge you to pursue **three things**:

### 1. Gather



Show up *regularly* and gather with us for worship.

### 2. Grow



Don't just show up, *grow up* spiritually and connect in a growth ministry like Life Groups.

### 3. Go!



Go and serve somewhere. Contribute as much *or more* than you consume!

## Word Find in the Word

Find the words from a passage related to this week's message.

### Word Find for Acts 12:1-19 (NIRV)

Find the words **bolded** below.

<sup>18</sup> May you have **power** with all God's **people** to **understand Christ's love**. May you **know** how wide and **long** and **high** and **deep** it is. <sup>19</sup> And may you **know** his **love**, **even though** it **can't** be **known completely**. Then you will be **filled** with **everything**

God has for you.

B A M O R E L K ' T L P

<sup>20</sup> God is **able** to do

B M R P R G T I M E O '

far **more** than we

F E M O H I G H K I V D

could **ever** ask for

K N O W N V F I L L E D

or **imagine**. He

K S J E V E N M C D V '

does **everything**

E V E R D U T A B L E S

by his **power** that

J U S O Y O R G L O R Y

is working in us.

C H U R C H R I S T Y T

<sup>21</sup> **Give** him **glory**

I L S J E C A N ' T T H

in the **church** and

C O M P L E T E L Y H E

in **Christ Jesus**.

K N O W F D E E P B I N

**Give** him **glory**

I G U N D E R S T A N D

through all **time**

P E O P L E T H O U G H

and for **ever** and

**ever**. Amen.

## life groups Study Guide (continued)

better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him."<sup>53</sup> The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household.<sup>54</sup> This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

JOHN 4:43-54 (ESV)

- Can you think of any examples in your life when you trusted God enough to do what He said? What was the outcome of how the Holy Spirit worked in your life and in the world?
3. Throughout the Bible, God provides us with motivation to trust him enough to obey what he tells us to do. What motivations do you find in the following passages to keep obeying and pushing forward despite the fact we can't see the outcome?

1 Corinthians 15:58

Hebrews 12:1-3

2 Timothy 4:6-8

- Which one of these passages is the most motivating to you?
4. The quality of communication in any relationship is directly related to the quality and depth of the relationship. The same is true in our relationship with God and our faith. Nehemiah was a man whose relationship with God had quality and depth, which can be seen in his prayer life. **Read Nehemiah 1:5-11** and jot down anything that gives you insight into Nehemiah's relationship and communication with God, and how it might impact or help you grow in your own prayer life and faith.

## Prayer

*As you close, take time to pray for each other. Pray especially for faith, trusting God, even in the face of the impossible!*

**Divide into separate groups of men and women and pray for one another.**

This week's Study Guide is adapted in part from a study by North Coast Church in Vista, CA. North Coast is a sister church of Wawasee Bible and part of the EFCA.



Wawasee Bible is part of the Evangelical Free Church of America. View our Statement of Faith online at [wawaseebible.com/beliefs](http://wawaseebible.com/beliefs). Learn more about the EFCA at [efca.org](http://efca.org).

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# ACTS

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PART 24

Have Faith,  
He Can Do It



ACTS 12:1-19



### We're Glad You're Here Today!

Please register your attendance on our **digital Connect Card** by scanning the QR code with your phone's camera, or by visiting **wawasee.today** in your web browser. Update your contact info, share prayer requests, or just let us know how we can serve you! You can also access today's bulletin using the same QR or link.