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**LESSON 11**

 **ACTS 11:19 – 12:25**

1. What truth or insight from last week’s lesson in **Acts 9:34 – 11:18** has guided your thoughts or actions this past week?

2. As you read **Acts 11:19-12:25** make note of the opposition and persecution faced by the apostles and any hopeful phrases that catch your eye.

3. Summarize how the **Lord** was working in and through the church of Antioch and how **God** was using Barnabas and Paul according to **Acts 11:19-26**.

4. In **V27-30** what did Agabus prophecy and how were the disciples unhindered in their response?

5. In **Acts 12:1-4,** how is King Herodtreating the church? What can you tell about him as a leader? *See also* ***V19***.

6. How did **God** miraculously answer the church’s prayer in **V5-11**? What truths about **God** are evident?

7. Read **Acts 12:12-18**.

 a) What was Peter’s next move and what do you notice about the reactions to his escape?

b) How have you been surprised by **God’s** answer to your own or another’s prayer? Why is it sometimes hard to believe that the answer is from the hand of **God**?

8. According to **V19-23**, how was the reign of King Herod going and why did his reign end?

9. As you take in all the events of the early church in today’s passage, what words in **V24-25** strengthen your faith and give you courage? Share your thoughts.

10. Describe the forces which oppose or persecute Christians today and what this looks like either locally or globally. What truth from this lesson changes your perspective?

**REFLECT ON THE WORDS OF JESUS**

 11. When contemplating the power of prayer in the growth of the early church, read **Jesus**’ words in **Matthew 7:7-8: “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.”** Ask **God** to show you areas of your life that are in need of His grace or rescue and bring them before Him in earnest prayer.

**NAME PRAYER REQUEST**