- 2. Acts 12:5 says the church was "earnestly praying" to God for Peter. How would you describe "earnest prayer"?
- 3. Why is hard to discern God's will for our lives from dreams?
- 4. Ever have dream where you think God spoke to you? What did you do about it?
- 5. If you have to explain to James' mother why God didn't rescue her son James from Herod's hands but did rescue Peter, what would you share with her?

### **Influencing Our World**

- 1. What does the Early Church do with this story? How does the world respond? See Acts 12:24
- 2. Do you know anyone going through a tough time right now?
- 3. What can you do to help them?

# **Deepening Our Hearts for God**

- 1. When we say, "God is sovereign" What do we mean? How do we see God's sovereignty in Acts 12?
- 2. What is God asking you to trust Him with lately?

**Looking Ahead:** Read Acts 13-14. What can we learn about God and His passions from these two chapters?



# **Deck Discussion Questions**

Striving to Know God and His People Better

**Coming Together:** We have saying in our culture that "when the going gets tough, the tough get going." Do you think that's accurate for most people? How do you typically react when life gets tough?

## **Growing in Our Understanding**

- 1. Why was King Herod so cold hearted? Acts 12:1-3
- 2. What was King Herod's motivation in arresting Peter? Acts 12:3-4
- 3. What happened the night before Peter went on trial? Acts 12:6-11
- 4. What is surprising to you about the account of what happened when Peter showed up at Mary's door? Acts 12:12-17
- 5. How does the story end for King Herod? Acts 12:18-24

### **Unwrapping God's Principles**

1. In Acts 12, what can we learn about how to react to tough times from Peter reactions? What is the reaction of the church?