

SG Study Guide- After the Potluck 14 (Acts 11:1-30)

**1. Power of God: Do we believe in the power of prayer?
(12:5-11)**

- When is the last time you prayed for a hopeless situation? How did you pray? Do we have a tendency to make “safe” prayers? Why? Is it a lack of faith in God or us?
- In Acts 12 the church “earnestly prayed.” What are the 4 ways God moved in response to their prayer?

**2. Person of God: Do we believe that God answers prayer?
(12:12-19)**

- V15- The church seems surprised that God answered their prayers. Why are we shocked when God does exactly what He says He will do? Has God answered a prayer that caught you by surprise?
- What does it mean to pray “*Your Kingdom come, Your will be done*”?
- Prayer is not only believing that power resides in our prayers, but that Almighty God hears our prayers and is able and willing to act! Do we believe this? Discuss...
- Also, discuss the tension of praying for things we desire and/or hope for, but leaving room for God’s will to be done in a situation. How can we do this but still make bold prayers that manifest God’s Kingdom?

**3. Plan of God: Man cannot stop God’s salvation plan?
(12:20-25)**

- Contrast the rule and reign of Herod with the rule and reign of Jesus Christ. Contrast Acts 12:20-25 with Jesus Triumphant Entry Matthew 21:1-17.
- How have we seen the world continually try to stop the salvation plan of God? Who are the Herod’s of our day?

Take time to pray as a group. Pray for God’s Kingdom to come and His will to be done! Pray trusting in His power and person and for the unfolding of His salvation plan in our nation!