



Discussion Questions for **Acts 12** - "**Strong & Steady Resistance**"  
Week of January 24<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**Warm Up** Describe a *prayer warrior*. Are they different from you? How so?

- Read all of **Acts 12** aloud and share what verse(s) impact you most. Why?
- Is persecution for faith in Jesus Christ real to your life personally? How so? If you experience *little* persecution do you believe it's *solely* because you live in a country with religious freedoms and *tolerating* other peoples beliefs is deemed the highest value? Share your thoughts and consider **2 Timothy 3:12** and **1 Peter 4:16**.
- Do you think we have privatized faith in Jesus Christ too much in America? In other words, is faith in Jesus simply *your* belief system, ticket to heaven, or private relationship with God? In what ways *could* your faith begin to impact other more "public" avenues of your life personally? Be specific to your situation.
- Collective prayer for a specific cause is seen in **Acts 12:5,12**. What prohibits us from praying collectively more often for specific needs as we see the church do on Peter's behalf?
- Resistance movements rise up when people have had enough and refuse to stand by idly to evil and corruption in the world. The cry of the resistance fighter is, "*I would rather die resisting this evil than live under its oppression any more.*" Do you believe that as followers of Jesus Christ prayer is the primary response to such opposition? Why or why not? In what ways have you experienced victory in your own life through radical, persistent, prayer?
- Faith grows when we *choose* to exercise it. The problem for many of us is that we are entirely too self-confident. The Enemy would have us believe that our battles are for us to fight on our own. What's the biggest battle you are facing and how can your friends in Home Group be praying for you?

**Wrap Up:** Proportionate to their size, Cypress trees have the deepest root system of any tree. Constant coastal winds cause their roots to sink down deep. Similarly, opposition in the Christian life is necessary in order to truly grow. Identify the top prayer needs for your friends in Home Group this week. Enter the battle on their behalf and commit to stopping at a certain time each day this week to lift their needs up to the Lord.