



Unified.
Empowered.
Missional.

WEEK 6 LEADER GUIDE: ACTS 11:19-12:25

Welcome to Week Six! Your group is now over halfway through our study of the book of Acts! We hope and pray that you are seeing your group members' hearts stirred with affection for God and His word, that they are thinking more deeply of the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and that they are showing a growing commitment to unity despite everything that tries to divide us.

It might be a good time to take a moment for a quick mental evaluation of how the study is going for your group. Is your group taking time to pause and make observations about God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit? Is your group making sure to consider what they sense the Spirit leading them to do in obedience to each week's reading? Are you making sure to leave space at the end of discussion each week to spend time together in meaningful prayer? Has your group participated together in any of the Invitations or Going Deeper designed to supplement and activate your learning? Are your group members still reading ahead of group and coming prepared for discussion? If you answered no to any of these questions, don't be discouraged! That's exactly why we're checking in with each other. It's easy to go through the motions and get off track at some point. Consider areas of the study your group might need to recommit to in order to finish strong. Perhaps go back to the Getting Started Leader Guide and read over it again for a quick refresher to help you stay focused.

PRAYER SUGGESTION:

This week we read of Peter's capture and miraculous deliverance from prison. Thomas Watson, the Puritan preacher, reportedly said, "The angle fetched Peter out of prison, but it was prayer that fetched the angel"¹. You could ask your group members if there is anything in their lives that they feel they need delivered from.

If your group has participated in Rooted in the past, this could be a good time to remember the breaking of strongholds that occurred as a part of your Rooted experience. Are their sins or strongholds creeping back into group members' lives or new areas that members need deliverance from?

If your group hasn't participated in Rooted yet, don't worry! This could simply be a moment to ask them to reflect on God's deliverance of Peter. You could ask them to consider any areas of their life that they feel they need deliverance from.

Give group members some time to share either with the entire group or break up into pairs to discuss. From there, take time to pray over one another, asking God for deliverance.

INVITATIONS:

Two suggestions to help your group grow in your missional engagement:

First- Just a reminder from last week about One Warm Coat. Consider practicing generosity together by committing to provide coats for those in need. [Learn more here](#). Your group might also want to consider buying coats in bulk from a trusted organization like [The Warming Project](#) to help stretch your money.

Second – The Imagine Conference is Friday, Nov. 13th and 14th with both in person and virtual options. See this week's study guide for more details. This would be a great opportunity to consider attending together as a group. It will be free for the first time this year and your group will join with other passionate followers of Jesus to collaborate on effective ways to serve Pittsburgh and the world through mentoring, refugee care, engaging in racial reconciliation efforts, seeking justice through combating human trafficking, embracing life, adoption and foster care, and supporting local and global missions. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

¹Warren W. Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*, 1:452-53.