

The Dilemma of Inconsistency: Acts 12:1-19

January 29, 2012

Inclusive:

- Take some time to worship the Lord together through music and/or testimonials of how He has shown His love and care for you this week.
- **Ice Breaker:** When have you had a dream that seemed so real that you wondered afterwards whether it had actually happened? What was it about?

Intentional:

Read *Acts 12:1-19* together

- What do you learn about Herod's character in verses 1-3?
- Why do you think his actions pleased the Jewish leaders?
- Why do you think Herod joined the Jewish opposition?
- How do you feel about the fact that God saved Peter but not James?
- In light of Jesus' prophecy to James and Peter's death, what do you think they would have said about their own deaths (Jn. 16:2-3; Jn. 21:18)?
- Who is James and why is he mentioned here?
- What does this tell you about his importance in the Jerusalem church?
- Who really has the power in this text?
- How are you like the people in the prayer meeting in this story?
- What are some of the prayers you have or would be surprised at God's answering?

Influential:

- What prayers will you dedicate yourselves to this week as a small group until God answers? Be intentional. Determine what you will pray about and come together again next week to review the results.