



**ACTS
OF THE**

**HOLY
SPIRIT**

Acts 12:1-17

The Church in its Growing Pains

Objectives of Series:

1. That we ***embrace***, welcome, the 3rd person of the Trinity, the HS; that our fears of the HS would be replaced by our friendship with the HS.
2. That we ***become reliant*** upon the power of the HS so that our verbal witness of Jesus might be filled with the HS.
3. That we ***be re-invigorated*** by the HS so that we might be useful for the purposes of the HS, whatever that might be.



1. Why was James martyred but Peter was not (at least not at this moment in time)?

A. Inner circle. Remember Cornelius.

B. Herod Agrippa 1st.

C. Intentional vs permissive will of God.

D. God is always working his purpose – even when things go wrong.



2. What are we to do when the HS directs us on a path, and then it seems as if he goes silent?

A. The angel left Peter alone in the street in the middle of the night. What to do now?



3. Jesus will never forget the love we show to others for the sake of his name.

A. Who is this “Mary”? Who was her son, John Mark and what difference did her love make to the will of God that night?

B. God is not unjust. He remembers when we “open our doors” to serve him.



4. The story reveals how our predispositions can cause us to miss the work of Jesus in our lives.

A. They gathered together on the last night of Peter's imprisonment. His death was imminent. This is when God often works! Their prayer put him to work!

B. They did not believe God would do a miracle. By God's grace, they still gathered and by God's grace, he still worked!



Next Steps.

1. Read and journal book of Acts.
2. Memorize these Scriptures:
 - Acts 2:38
 - Acts 3:19-20
 - Acts 5:32
3. Search out your “predispositions.” Do they lead you to Jesus or to your fears? How can you set a strategy to break free from them?