# Prayer & Faith

**Ken Chapman** · Acts 12:5–16

## INTRODUCTION

- What about your relationship to God? Are you a trusting person? Are you a cynic when it comes to God?
- I specifically want to talk about one arena in which we need to have faith in God and one area of our Christian life where our faith should be foundational.
- And so now he arrests Peter. And he puts Peter in prison with the intent of doing the exact same thing all over again.

## 1 Prayer Must Be Offered in Sincere, Devoted Faith

**Acts 12:5; Acts 12:12–16; James 1:5–8**

- Prayer absolutely must be offered in sincere, devoted faith.
- Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.
- Who were they praying to? The most powerful being in the universe. And when their prayers were answered, they didn't believe it.
- Let him ask in faith. In faith, with no doubting. For he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind.
- Faith and prayer, Scripture teaches us, are so intertwined, or should be, that they cannot be separated.
- I can measure my faith by my prayer life. If I'm not praying, it might be because I don't believe.

## 2 Humbly Accept God's Answer, No Matter What

**Job 38:1–7**

- That faith must not be diminished when we don't receive the answer that we want to receive. That we must humbly accept God's answer, no matter what it is.
- And had they prayed for James. God, keep James safe. Don't let Herod kill him.
- But know this. God never promised fair.
- Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me if you have understanding.
- God is telling Job, I'm God and you're not. That because I'm God and you're not, I know what I'm doing.
- I know that you can do everything. And that no purpose of yours can be withheld from you.

## THE CHALLENGE

**Will you put your trust in Him, your absolute trust in Him, so much so that you're laying your whole life, your soul, and your eternal destination in His powerful, merciful hand.**

## MY NOTES