



## Decade of Availability Spirit Powered Prayer

*“Don’t pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord and keep it. A man is powerful on his knees.”*

Corrie ten Boom

### A. Reasons for Prayer vv. 1-4

1. **Herod kills James:** This is Herod Agrippa, the grandson of Herod the Great. James is the brother of John (who wrote the Gospel).
2. **Why pray?** The apostle James was dead and Peter will be next. He’s guarded round the clock—there is NO escape—no humanly way to change what is about to happen.

***Are there IMPOSSIBLE situations in your life?  
How are you praying for them?***

### B. The Church at Prayer vv. 5; 12

1. **Constant prayer:** Literally ‘earnestly’ meaning ‘to stretch’ or ‘to strain.’
2. **What were they praying?** We don’t know for sure but because they were so surprised when he showed up—they may have been praying that he would have strength and courage in death.
3. **Expectations:** v. 11 is clear that the Jews expected Peter’s death but God had a different plan...an angel was sent as a result of the praying church.

***Who or what in your life is worth ‘agonizing’ over in prayer?***

### C. Answered Prayer vv. 6-11; 13-17

1. **Angelic ministry:** Both Peter and the church forgot about the ministry of angels.

**Jacob:** *Gen 28:12* Although Jacob appeared to be abandoned by God and man, there was angelic traffic between Heaven and earth on his behalf.

**Jesus:** “...you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.” *John 1:51* He controls the highway between Heaven and earth.

**Angels:** “Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?” *Heb 1:14*

***Do you know someone who needs an angelic intervention?***

### D. Consequences of Prayer vv. 18-24

1. **Herod’s reaction:** When Herod found out that Peter had escaped he blamed the guards and had them all killed. He was full of anger when he went to Tyre and Sidon.
2. **The angel:** When Herod gives a speech and the people glorify him as divine—the ‘angel’ (was it the same one who got Peter out of jail?) — struck him dead.
3. **The Word of God grows:** v. 24 The chapter ends as so many do in the book of Acts...God’s Word and Church are growing.

***Have you considered that God is waiting for you to PRAY earnestly because He will release His heavenly army to accomplish His will? Will you pray today?***

### Acts 12:1-25 (NKJV)

5 Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.

6 And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were keeping the prison.

7 Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, “Arise quickly!” And his chains fell off his hands.

8 Then the angel said to him, “Gird yourself and tie on your sandals”; and so he did. And he said to him, “Put on your garment and follow me.”

9 So he went out and followed him, and did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision.

10 When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

11 And when Peter had come to himself, he said, “Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people.”

12 So, when he had considered this, he came to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together praying.

13 And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a girl named Rhoda came to answer.

14 When she recognized Peter’s voice, because of her gladness she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter stood before the gate.

15 But they said to her, “You are beside yourself!” Yet she kept insisting that it was so. So they said, “It is his angel.”

16 Now Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished.

17 But motioning to them with his hand to keep silent, he declared to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, “Go, tell these things to James and to the brethren.” And he departed and went to another place.



# Village Church of Laguna Woods



*Available to God -- Available to Others*

## Rise up O Church of God

Rise up, O Church of God!  
Have done with lesser things;  
Give heart and mind and soul and strength  
To serve the King of kings!

Rise up, O Church of God!  
His kingdom tarries long;  
Bring in the day of brotherhood  
And end the night of wrong.

Lift high the cross of Christ!  
Tread where His feet have trod;  
As followers of the Son of Man,  
Rise up, O Church of God

## The Family of God

I'm so glad I'm a part of the Family of God,  
I've been washed in the fountain,  
cleansed by His Blood!  
Joint heirs with Jesus as we  
travel this sod,  
For I'm part of the family,  
The Family of God

## Shine, Jesus, shine

Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the father's glory  
Blaze, spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light

## Alive

Alive, alive, alive forevermore.  
My Jesus is alive, alive forevermore.  
Alive, alive, alive forevermore.  
My Jesus is alive.  
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia,  
My Jesus is alive forevermore.  
Sing alleluia, sing alleluia  
My Jesus is alive.

## Schedule - Calendar

### Friday Oct 25 Bible Study

Clubhouse 3 10:15 a.m.

**Jim and Mary McKinney** sharing!



### Sunday Oct 28

**Worship/Communion** 10:15 a.m.

Clubhouse 7 **Pastor Darrell Ward**  
sharing the Word and Communion.

### Friday Nov 2 Monthly Healing

**Service** Clubhouse 3 10:15 a.m. **Sam**

**Parsons** will be leading the service.



### Day Light Saving Time

Fall back—set your clock back before  
you go to bed on **Saturday night Nov 3.**

### Sunday Nov 4 Worship Service

10:15 a.m. Clubhouse 7 **Pastor Ron**

**Gravel** sharing the Word.



### Wed Nov 7 Mug & Muffin

10:00 a.m. at the Shelton's home.

Sign ups start today.

Bring your coffee cup with you—the  
rest will be provided. Sponsored by  
our Women's Ministry.

### Friday Nov 9 Bible Study

Clubhouse 3 10:15 a.m.

**Rony Jordan** sharing an update  
from Israel.



### Sunday Nov 11 Veterans Day

**Worship Service** 10:15 a.m.

Clubhouse 7

Here testimony's from our veterans,  
patriotic worship. Capt. Randall  
Ross USMC (1988-92) will share  
from the Word

## The Village Church

Mailing Address: 24310 Moulton Pkwy Suite O Unit 540  
Laguna Woods CA 92637 — 949-264-1617 — VillageAlive.com

**Sundays Clubhouse 7 10:15 a.m. —**

**Fridays Clubhouse 3 10:15 a.m.**

Mike Bayer: Pastor — Noel Wilson: Worship Pastor