

A photograph of a prison hallway. In the foreground, a black metal gate with a grid pattern is partially open, revealing a long, brightly lit corridor. The corridor has rows of barred doors on both sides, leading to individual cells. The walls are light-colored, and the floor is a neutral tone. The perspective is from the end of the hallway, looking down its length.

PRISON BREAK

ACTS 12:1-25

Powerful King/Praying Church

A photograph of a prison corridor. In the foreground, there is a black metal barred gate. The corridor extends into the distance, with a concrete floor and walls. On the right side, there are several cell doors. On the left side, there are more cell doors and a balcony area with a railing. The lighting is somewhat dim, and the overall atmosphere is somber and institutional.

Overwhelming Opposition 1-4

- Cruelty of Herod
- James' death/Peter's arrest
- Timing of the feast

Prayers of the Church 5

- Impossible Situation
- Prayed all week/nothing

God Takes Action

Awakening Angel 5-11

- Peter sleeping soundly
- Touched by an angel
- Dream or Reality

Awkward Church 12-17

- Peter at the gate
- Rhoda must be crazy



Herod's Bad Day

Morning news 18-19

- Prisoner has escaped
- Innocent guards executed
- Herod leaves town

Herod gets his 20-23

- Receives divine praise
- Struck by an angel



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Dead King/Dynamic Church

Herod's agonizing death 23

- Learns his lesson

The gospel is not harmed 24-25

- Word of God grew & multiplied

- Barnabas & Saul return with Mark

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Dead King/Dynamic Church

A photograph of a long, empty hallway with a grid-patterned metal gate in the foreground, looking into a brightly lit area.

Layers of irony

- Luke's use of humor

Deeper irony

- Mortals aren't allowed on God's throne
- The church prayed, but didn't believe
- Everything they prayed for came to pass

Believing in Prayer

- Lack of understanding
- Lack of control
- Lack of faith
- Lack of practice



A photograph of a prison hallway, viewed through a black metal barred gate. The hallway is long and narrow, with a concrete floor and walls. On the left side, there are several cell doors, each with a barred window. On the right side, there are more barred windows, likely for another level of the prison. The lighting is somewhat dim, and the overall atmosphere is stark and institutional.

PRISON BREAK

ACTS 12:1-25