**7/14/21 Evil People are Never Satisfied With the Amount of Evil That They Commit! Acts 12:1-16**

* Whatever is on the inside will eventually come to the outside.
* Evil people resemble their father who is a liar and has always hated the truth.
* While persecution increased, the Apostles stayed, but the other believers fled for their lives.
* Psychologists reminds us that people deflect and project blame on others to protect their own self-image.

**John 8:44-45; Acts 8:1-3**

**1. The competition must be eliminated.**

* Herod began to persecute the believers because he wanted to weaken and destroy their witness.
* After having James beheaded, Herod next sets his eyes on Peter.
* James and John’s mother ask Jesus for a special seat for them in His kingdom.

**Acts 12:1-4; Matthew 20:20-23**

**2. Prayer changes situations and people.**

* We must PUSH (Pray Until Something Happens) to get our breakthrough!
* The Church prayed for Peter’s deliverance at Mary’s house.
* Jesus said “For where two or three are gathered together in my name,

there am I in the midst of them.”

**Acts 12:5; Luke 18:1; Matthew 18:20; Hebrews 4:16; Philippians 3:10; John 17; Romans 8: 34; Proverbs 18:10**

**3. Sometimes God has a different plan for our lives.**

* The night before Peter was to be placed on trial, God sent an angel to free Peter.
* None of the guards or other prisoners noticed anything that night.
* Peter knew where to go to find the people who were praying for his deliverance.
* God had answered the believers’ prayers, and Peter was standing at the door, but they did not believe that it was him.

**Acts 12:6-16**