

Rhoda Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Rhoda was a servant in a Christian home. What would be her status?

How would a servant girl likely be affected by the actions of an unpredictable king like Herod?

When the Christians were gathered to pray, would she likely be listening?

Is it likely there were comments about Herod's wickedness as well as pleas to free Peter from prison and save his life?

Might it be likely that a 12-year-old girl would have opinions on whether girls were better than boys?

Is it ironic that the people in the prayer meeting did not believe her when she said Peter was at the door?

Do we sometimes criticize children for things that we set up, like "don't open the door"?

Might a 12-year-old girl be especially sensitive to the injustice of punishing guards for a prisoner escaping, especially when it wasn't really their fault?

Would the story of how Herod died be particularly memorable to a child?

Might the involvement of angels in Peter's rescue be fascinating to her?

How might an adult have reacted differently?

Should we listen to children when they tell us things that have happened to them?

Should we apologize if we have doubted or ignored them?

Why is this difficult for adults?