Journal Page

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does this story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

Romans 12:5 "So it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body and we all belong to each other."

FAMILY DISCUSSION STARTERS

- What blessings do we look forward to as followers of Jesus?
- Have you ever faced suffering or persecution because of your faith? How did you react or how would you react?
- Do you ever feel afraid or embarrassed to talk about Jesus? Why or why not?

FOLD

Stephen's Sermon

Acts 6–7

STORY POINT: STEPHEN PREACHED ABOUT JESUS NO MATTER WHAT.

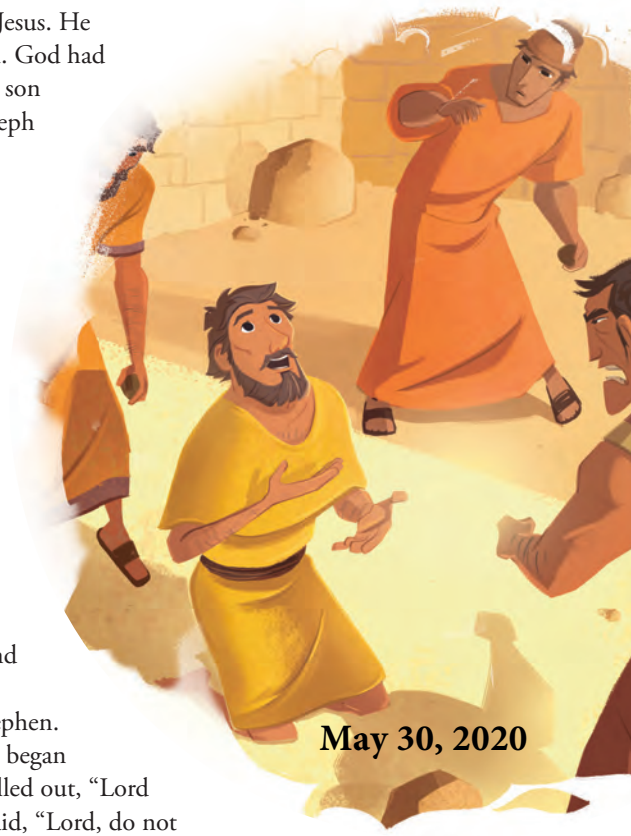
Stephen was one of Jesus' followers. One day, some Jews began to argue with Stephen. The Holy Spirit helped Stephen speak with wisdom. The Jews lied about Stephen; they said he had spoken against God. The people dragged Stephen to the Jewish court and told more lies.

Stephen began to preach about Jesus. He reminded the court about Abraham. God had made promises to Abraham and his son Isaac. He reminded them about Joseph and Moses. God was working out a plan. God worked through Joshua and David and Solomon.

Stephen told them these stories to explain that Jesus was the Messiah God had promised! But just like their ancestors rejected and killed the prophets in the Old Testament, these Jewish leaders had rejected Jesus and murdered Him!

Stephen's words made the Jewish leaders so angry! Stephen was filled with the Holy Spirit. He looked up to heaven and saw Jesus standing there at the right hand of God.

The Jewish leaders rushed at Stephen. They threw him out of the city and began throwing stones at him. Stephen called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then he said, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" After this, Stephen died.



May 30, 2020

Christ Connection: Stephen was killed because he was a Christian. Jesus told His followers that they would be persecuted—hated, hurt, or even killed—for loving Him. Jesus also said that those who suffer for Him would be blessed. We can face suffering in this life because Jesus suffered first. He died and then rose again, and He is waiting for us in heaven.

Historical Figures

Match each person with the correct description.

Abraham

Found favor with God and wanted to build a temple (Acts 7:46)

Jacob

Called by God to lead God's people out of Egypt (Acts 7:35-36)

David

Called by God to leave his home and go to the promised land (Acts 7:2-3)

Joseph

Sold into slavery in Egypt but became a great ruler (Acts 7:9-10)

Moses

Built a temple for the Lord (Acts 7:47)

Solomon

Sent his sons to Egypt to find food during a famine (Acts 7:11-12)

Stephen Quiz

Circle the correct answer for each statement or question.

Stephen was one of _____ men chosen to serve in the church. (Acts 6:3)

7	10
12	40

The Holy Spirit helped Stephen speak with _____. (Acts 6:10)

anger	wisdom
gentleness	lies

What is *blasphemy*? (Acts 6:11)

keeping silent in court	preaching about Jesus
studying the Bible	speaking against God

Stephen's face looked like the face of an _____. (Acts 6:15)

donkey	angel
demon	judge

Stephen accused the Jewish leaders of _____ Jesus. (Acts 7:52)

worshiping	murdering
obeying	loving

Whom did Stephen see standing at the right hand of God? (Acts 7:56)

Joseph	Moses
the Son of Man	John the Baptist

What did Stephen ask God to do to his enemies? (Acts 7:60)

forgive them	kill them
punish them	ignore them