



Unit 29, Session 2

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.

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.



EXPERIENCE the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- 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)

- What does this story teach us about God?

- What does God promise to believers who suffer?

CHRIST CONNECTION

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