

At-A-Glance: Ages 6-7 Prophets & Promises Part 1: Acts - Revelation Unit 1, Lesson 4

# The Stoning of Stephen

Lesson Aim: To trust that the Holy Spirit will help us be faithful.

### THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What brave thing have you seen someone do?

GAME: Match Up

### **THE WORSHIP** THE SPIRIT WHO GIVES US POWER

Read Worship Scripture: Revelation 22:3-5.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Commander Cosmos script or read storybook.

### THE WORD THE STONING OF STEPHEN

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Jesus healed the lame man when Peter called on His name.

If a Bible Timeline is available, point out The Stoning of Stephen. **Stephen** was chosen to make sure everyone had enough food. In today's story, we will see how he boldly spoke about Jesus to the Sanhedrin; a group of Jewish leaders in Jerusalem. Point out Jerusalem. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Acts 6:5a, 8, 15; 7:54-60. Pray. Let's read how the Bible describes Stephen. Read Acts 6:5a, 8.

**Stephen spoke boldly about Jesus which made some men angry. They seized him and took him to the Sanhedrin.** Read Acts 6:15.

Stephen spoke boldly about Jesus. He explained that the part of God's plan which began with Abraham and then Moses, was completed by God's Son, Jesus. The leaders were very angry when Stephen told them they had disobeyed God by refusing to believe in Jesus. Let's see what happened next. Read Acts 7:54-60.

# THE WAY BEING FAITHFUL

The Bible says Stephen was a man who was full of faith and full of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit helped Stephen be faithful to God. One who is faithful to God completely trusts Him, obeys Him, and is loyal to Him. After the men threw stones at Stephen, he fell into a deep sleep. Then, he died and went to heaven to be with Jesus forever. Stephen stayed faithful to Jesus, even when he knew it would cost him his life.

The angry men did not want Stephen to talk about Jesus. The Holy Spirit helped Stephen boldly speak about Jesus and the Holy Spirit can help you, too. Have you ever boldly told others about Jesus?

What did God show Stephen when he looked up to heaven? (The Son of Man (Jesus) standing next to God.) Do you think seeing Jesus with God the Father in heaven helped Stephen to not be afraid? (Yes.) When have you been afraid? How can it help you to know Jesus and God the Father are watching over you from heaven?

Stephen was faithful when he prayed for his enemies. He faithfully obeyed Jesus' teachings on forgiving and loving our enemies. We are being faithful when we obey God's Word, the Bible. We are being faithful when we speak boldly about Jesus and help others follow Him. We are being faithful when we put God first in our lives. What are some ways God has helped you be faithful to Him?

#### CHRIST CONNECTION:

When the men were throwing stones at Stephen, he looked up and saw Jesus standing next to God the Father in heaven. Check out what Daniel saw over 600 years earlier. Reveal Daniel 7:13-14. Read.

How do you think it will feel to one day see Jesus coming through the clouds? How does this description of the Son of Man (Jesus) give you courage to be faithful?

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

#### FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: Stephen's Stone
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: Stephen looking to heaven as the men threw stones
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

## **GOT TIME?**

SNACK: Serve Others GAME: Pray for God's Power CRAFT: "Be Faithful!" Shoe Charm BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Memory Verse Hand Motions, Around the World

#### **BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW**