#### Stephen's Arrest and Speech Bible Background: Acts 6:8-7:53 Printed Text: Acts 6:8-7:2A KJV/NLT Devotional Reading: Proverbs 8:1-11

# Aim for Change:

- 1. **DISCUSS** the stand that Stephen took as a response to his faith
- 2. FEEL motivated to confront the principalities and powers of our day
- 3. SEEK the power and wisdom of the Spirit in our efforts to speak the truth

### **Devotional Reading:**

- Thursday Proverbs 8:1-11
  - o (v. 2) What direction has your wisdom led you? *Psalm 5:1-7*
  - (v. 8) Are your words backed by your actions? *Psalm 17:1-6*
  - (v. 11) How do you get wisdom? Acts 2:38-47; Revelation 1:3

### **Focal Verses:**

- Sunday *Acts 6:8-7:2A* 
  - (v. 8) What gifts have you exercised? Does your gift(s) bring edification or cause division? John 4:48-53; Romans 12:6-13; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; Ephesians 4:7-12
  - (vv. 9-11) How do you respond when falsely accused? Has your deceit finally been exposed? 2 Kings 17:13-16; Isaiah 50:4-8; Matthew 10:20-22; Luke 21:15-19
  - (vv. 12-15) How do you have peace in the middle of persecution? Do you give in to fit in or do you stand firm in Christ? *Exodus 4:10-12; Matthew 26:59-64*
  - (v. 2A) Why is it so difficult to listen to the Spirit? Why argue with foolishness? *Proverbs* 8:32-36; 9:9-12; *Ecclesiastes* 10:11-15

# **Daily Readings:**

- Monday *Isaiah 59:1-8* 
  - o (vv. 2-3) If you feel separated from God, what have you done about it? Jeremiah 16:10-13
  - (vv. 7-8) Where are you running to? Have you prepared for the run? *Proverbs 4:10-16; Isaiah 40:31*
- Tuesday Jeremiah 8:22-9:9
  - (vv. 3-5) Have you trained your lies to become your truth? *Jeremiah 8:4-6; 23:18-27*
  - (vv. 6-9) Is your heart refusing to know God, while your lip service is faking the funk? Isaiah 1:19-21
- Wednesday Zechariah 8:14-19
  - o (v. 17) Where does your spiritual imagination lead you? Isaiah 55:6-13
  - $\circ$  (v. 19) Do you fast for the truth? 3 John 1:3-8
- Friday John 16:12-15
  - o (v. 13) How are you guided if you're a believer? *Exodus 15:11-18; Psalm 25*
  - o (v. 15) How do you see what you can't touch? *John 14:16-18, 26*
- Saturday Acts 6:1-7
  - (v. 1) Why should we expect the pastor to take care of the less fortunate if we're family? *Exodus 18:17-23; Deuteronomy 1:13-18*
  - (vv. 3-4) Have you met the prerequisites of a servant of Christ or are you just a spectator? Does your servitude help pastor focus on prayer and the word of God? Or does your drama hinder God's work through the work of the pastor? 2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Philippians 4:4-9; 1 Timothy 5:10-13; Hebrews 6:1-6; 3 John 1:12