

Sunday, 10-16-22

Stephen's Martyrdom
Bible Background: Acts 7:1-8:1A
Printed Text: Acts 7:51-8:1A KJV/NLT
Devotional Reading: Ephesians 6:13-20

Aim for Change:

1. **IDENTIFY** the reasons for Stephen's martyrdom
 2. **REFLECT** on our reactions when our beliefs are challenged
 3. **WITNESS** peacefully and candidly for Christ regardless of the cost
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Devotional Reading:

- **Monday – Ephesians 6:13-20**
 - (v. 13) How firm are you planted/rooted in Christ/Word? – *Luke 21:33-36; Philipians 2:9-18*
 - (vv. 14-18) How have you prepared for battle? – *Isaiah 52:5-9; 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11*
 - (vv. 19-20) Has your life in Christ become a life of prayer or a lie? – *Romans 8:24-28; Colossians 4:1-6*
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Focal Verses:

- **Sunday – Acts 7:51-8:1A**
 - (v. 51) Is your stubbornness hereditary? Why do you refuse/ignore the Holy Ghost? – *Exodus 33:1-6; Deuteronomy 10:16-19*
 - (v. 52) Have you been persecuted for Jesus to the point where you thought you were going to die? – *2 Chronicles 36:15-19; Matthew 21:34-38*
 - (v. 54) Do your convictions cause you to repent or rebel? – *Joshua 22:16-19; Acts 5:30-33*
 - (v. 57) Have people left you because of Christ or have you left Christ because of others? – *Luke 4:28-32*
 - (v. 59) Whose view(s) do you support while proclaiming to be a Christian? – *Deuteronomy 13:6-11; Acts 22:16-21*
 - (vv. 59-60) Who do you cry out to in time of persecution? Do you have enough faith/patience for God's deliverance even if it means death? – *Psalms 31*
 - (v. 60) Can you forgive those who hate you and done you wrong? – *Matthew 5:43-48; Colossians 3:12-17*
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Daily Readings:

- **Tuesday – Acts 7:17-22 (Bible Background)**
 - (vv. 18-19) Have you forgotten what you have been redeemed from? – *Exodus 1:8-10*
 - (v. 22) Are you strengthening your relationship with God? Are you just doing the bare minimum so church folks don't notice the difference? – *1 Kings 4:29-30*
- **Wednesday – Acts 7:30-34 (Bible Background)**
 - (v. 30) How patient are you in waiting for God to answer? – *Exodus 3:1-4*
 - (vv. 33-34) Do you genuinely believe God's grounds are Holy grounds? – *Exodus 3:4-10; Joshua 5:13-15*
- **Thursday – Acts 7:35-39 (Bible Background)**
 - (v. 35) Are you so "Holy" that you can't feel the presence of God? – *Numbers 20:14-17*
 - (vv. 38-39) Is your comfort zone worth your salvation? – *Galatians 3:19-23; Hebrews 2:1-4*
- **Friday – Acts 7:39-43 (Bible Background)**
 - (v. 39) Are you confident who you are in Christ or how men recognize you? Has your confidence exalted Christ or self? – *Exodus 32:1-10*
 - (v. 43) Is your worship for God from the heart or worldly standards? Are your sacrifices like Cain or like Abel? – *Genesis 4:1-10; Exodus 16:1-5*
- **Saturday – Acts 7:44-50 (Bible Background)**
 - (vv. 45-46) Do you draw people in or push them away from the church? How drawn are others to you because of the Christ in you? – *Hebrews 4:7-14*
 - (vv. 49-50) Is "your" church not worth the maintenance costs to keep in great spiritual condition? – *Acts 17:24-30*

Note – **Bold/Italicized scripture(s) are additional scriptural reference(s) that may be read during class**

Note – Sunday School Lesson originates out of the Precepts for Living w/Commentary 2022-2023

<https://store.urbanministries.com/collections/precepts-for-living/products/precepts-for-living-2023>