

# LIFE GROUPS

connect. serve. grow.

## Leader's Guide

Week of May 14

### The Big Idea

Stephen was a man in-step with the Holy Spirit who did whatever he could, setting aside self-interest and tradition, for a life with God.

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### Getting Started

1. Would you characterize your spiritual life as predictable? Why is that?
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### Digging In

1. Read **Acts 6:8-15**. What are Stephen's qualities? What does he do here in chapter 6? What is he accused of doing?  
**\*Leader's Note:** It's good to point out that Stephen was one of the "deacons" who served tables! He was a remarkable man with incredible qualities and capacities, yet he was also humble enough to help wherever needed.
  2. Read **Acts 7:1-53**. In this speech, Stephen gives a summary of all the Old Testament. What is his one major point?  
**\*Leader's Note:** There is a long history of humans (specifically Israel) rejecting God and the Holy Spirit. The Jewish leaders of Stephen's day were doing the exact same thing: denying the Spirit.
  3. Read **Acts 7:44-60**. How does Stephen's attitude and actions compare with those of the religious leaders?
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### Looking Around

1. Do you worship your worship or do you worship God? In other words, are you stuck to your own

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particular preferences, forms, and traditions of your faith with God, or is it fluid and constantly new?

2. What can you learn from Stephen's martyrdom?
3. What areas of your life need the freshness of the spirit to make your walk with God less predictable? Is it through sacrificial serving? Through sharing your faith boldly with others? Somewhere else?

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## Pray

Pray that God gives you the courage to be like Stephen and serve sacrificially where serving is needed, proclaim to people who are stiff-necked, and pursue a beautiful relationship with the Holy Spirit.