

# The Book of Acts

## Study Guide and Discussion Questions

### Week 8

### Chapters 6-8

### Stephen - The First Martyr

**1. We begin Chapter 6 with a description of a problem in the early church. Some of the widows are being neglected. The work of the ministry becomes too taxing on the apostles – so they decide to resolve this by multiplying their efforts. Seven men are selected to take care of the needs of the people. What are the characteristics of these 7 men?**

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**2. Among them is Stephen. He not only does the administration of the ministry but he does more. Let's look at all that Stephen does. Chapter 6:5 and 6:8**

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**3. How do (the reader) know that his witness was remarkable?**

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**4. How do they trap him?**

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**Chapter 7:1-51 – Stephen speaks regarding the history of the Jews and Jesus. Notice that he is also quite knowledgeable.**

**5. In verse 7:51 – Stephen says much of the same thing that Peter said addressing the Priest – but this time it has a different result. Verse 7:54 They were cut to the heart . . . what did they do?**

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**6. And then what?**

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**We meet Saul in this chapter for the first time – Saul who is to become Paul – the greatest missionary who ever lived. Who traveled thousands of miles to proclaim the Gospel without a car, or a airplane. Paul, who wrote 2/3rds of the New Testament.**

**7. Verse 7:58** And the witnesses laid down their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul.

**8. WHAT IS THE RESULT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKING THROUGH STEPHEN?**

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**9. How does this affect the church?**

**Look at chapter 8:1-4**

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**10. Does the baby church disband? Does it frighten the believers into rejecting Jesus?**

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**11. Philip goes were? Why?**

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**12. What is the result?**

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2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

*Next time we will read about how the Holy Spirit starts stirring things up! Chapters 8 – 9*