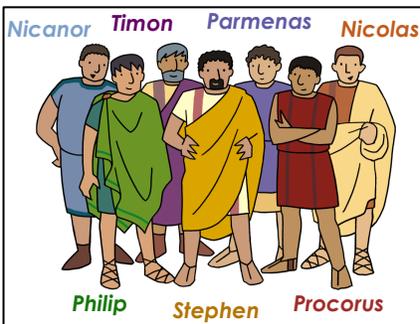


Video:
https://youtu.be/On6uhnOiRWY?si=03Z_UuUoJuCO_Rn
Stoned to Death / The Story of Stephen by Animated Biblical Tales



Lesson #6: STEPHEN IS STONED TO DEATH BECAUSE HE IS A CHRISTIAN (ACTS 6-7)



The Bible says that the church grew and grew as the Christians told others the good news of Jesus. Many people decided to trust and follow Jesus.

Stephen was one of the men that had been chosen as a Deacon. He helped take care of the church family. The Holy Spirit even helped Stephen do miracles to help people.



Stephen wanted everyone to know the good news about Jesus. He knew that there were many Jews who followed God but did not yet believe in Jesus. So, Stephen went to preach in a synagogue. A synagogue is where Jewish people gathered to learn and worship.

The leaders of the synagogue were called Pharisees. They did not believe what Stephen was saying about Jesus. They became angry. In fact, they became so angry that they began telling lies about Stephen to make everyone hate him.





They said Stephen was saying bad things about the Jews and about God. They said he wanted to destroy their temple and stop them from worshipping God.

They took Stephen to the Sanhedrin. The Sanhedrin was a group of Jewish leaders that made decisions like in a courtroom. Even though the synagogue leaders were saying all of these lies in the courtroom, Stephen trusted in Jesus.



Stephen had so much faith in Jesus that his face was peaceful and shining! The people said, "His face is like the face of an angel."

Stephen told the people in the courtroom that God sent His Son, Jesus. They had killed him, but God raised him from the dead. Jesus came to forgive them of their sins. This message made the men of the Sanhedrin angry.



They took Stephen out of the city and threw stones at him.

Stephen knew Jesus would help him.



The Bible says, "Stephen... looked up to heaven and saw... Jesus. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and [Jesus] standing at the right hand of God." Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, Stephen died.

Now Stephen is in heaven with Jesus. When we trust and follow Jesus, He will help us even when bad things happen. Thank God!



PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY

THE STONING OF STEPHEN

Spot 8 differences between the two pictures.



UPPER GRADES ACTIVITY

Stoning of Stephen



Read Acts 6:8-7:60. Write a short summary of this story below.

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When the Pharisees didn't want to hear about Jesus, what did they accuse Stephen of?



Was it true?



What do you learn from what happened to Stephen?
