

# Steven Looks to Heaven

**Objective:** The kids will learn what it means to fix your eyes on Jesus and know the story of Steven and what happened to him, the trials he faced and how his eyes were fixed on Jesus.

**Materials:** Bible, paper, pen, worksheets.

**Lesson:** Talk to the kids what it means to fix your eyes on something, what to focus on. Discuss with the kids what that means. Review over how Jesus walked on water and how Peter lost his focus on Jesus and what happened, and review with them what happened when Jesus healed the blind man. Then you can talk about what a martyr is? Ask if they know who Steven was in the bible? Then you can start to read Acts 6:8-7:60. When you finished reading you can act the story out with the kids and then here are some review questions:

1. Who said that believers would suffer? Jesus
2. Who was a man full of God's grace and power? Stephen
3. Why couldn't Stephen's enemies win their argument against him? They could not stand up against his wisdom or the Spirit by whom he spoke.
4. When the Sanhedrin looked at Stephen's face what did they see? A face of an angel.
5. Why did Stephen tell his enemies about God's history with the Jews? He was reminding them that the Jews have always rejected God's servants and they have rejected and murdered Jesus.
6. How was Stephen able to be bold to speak the truth to his enemies? The Holy Spirit gave him courage.
7. What did Stephen tell the crowd he saw? Jesus standing at the right hand of God.
8. What did the enemies do to Stephen? Stoned him.
9. How can this lesson help you this week to stand up for Jesus?

**Activity:** I found some of these activities online.

**Learning Activity #1:** As an activity for students to participate in while waiting for others to arrive play a game of True or False? Have statements on index cards of what life for a believer looks like. Place the Scripture reference on the card so they can look at the Scripture to see if their answer is correct. Examples: Believers will be persecuted. 2 Timothy 3:10-12; John 15:20 Everyone loved Jesus so believers will be loved by all too. John 15:18-19; Luke 21:17 Those who are persecuted should be sad. Matthew 5:10-12; Luke 6:22-23 Believers need to follow Jesus daily. Luke 9:22-23

**Learning Activity #2:** After the story allow students to act out the story. If there is enough time pose the idea what Stephen might have done if he was not filled with the Holy Spirit and let them act out the story with how they think the story would have turned out. (If Stephen would have avoided suffering God would not have received glory. 1 Peter 4:12-16)

**Learning Activity #3:** Before class starts have this statement on the board or poster visible to the students: "If I am a believer I can trust God when I suffer because of my faith in Jesus." At the close of the lesson allow the students to write the statement and the Memory verse in their notebooks. Each week a new truth with Scripture can be added to the notebook. At the end of the year the students will have made their own Promises from God notebook. If timing is an

issue then it can be written in the notebooks when the students arrive.

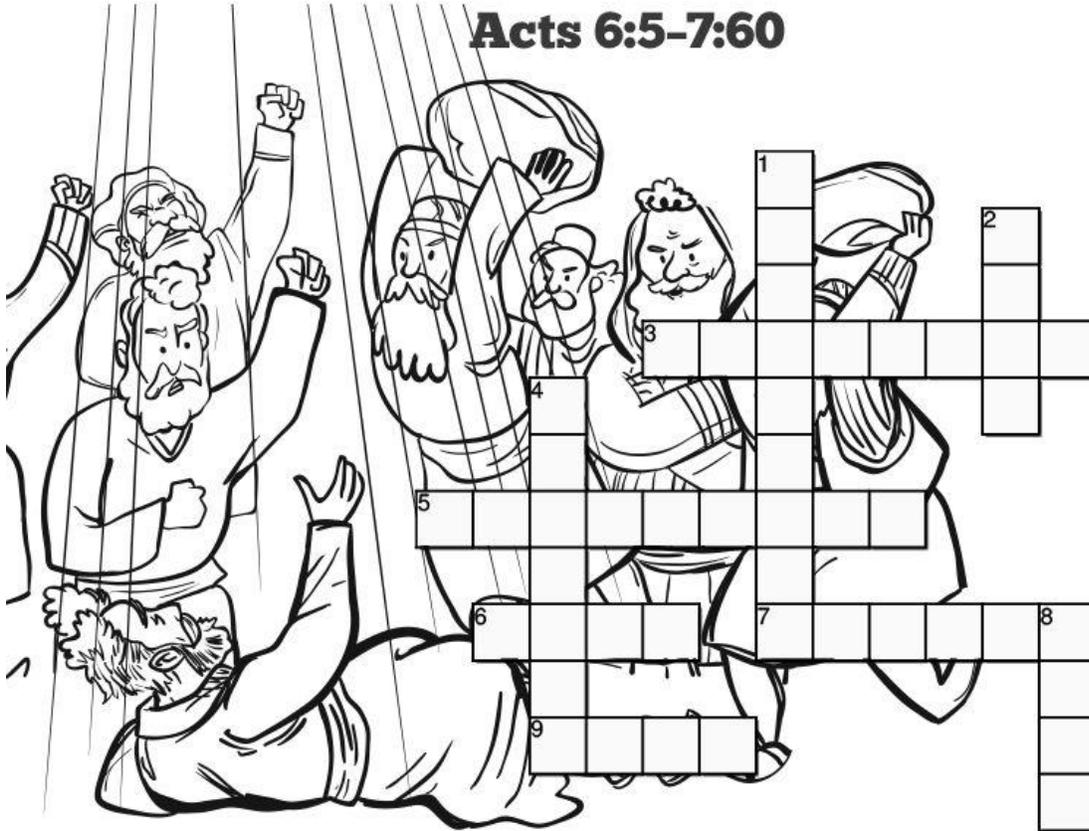
**Test:** Review Questions

**Memory Verse:** Luke 6:22-23 “Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their fathers treated the prophets.” (Depending on your students you may want to memorize only one of the two verses. This verse was chosen because it embodies the truth that believers will be persecuted. Jesus promised that those who suffer for Him will receive a great reward in heaven.)

There are also some worksheets you can do.

# THE STONING OF STEPHEN

Acts 6:5-7:60



## Across

3. Stephen went around preaching, healing people and performing \_\_\_\_\_ all proving the power of Christ.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is when you say bad things about God.
6. Because Stephen preached about Jesus in court, the leaders decided to \_\_\_\_ him.
7. The leaders threw \_\_\_\_\_ at Stephen until he died.
9. When the Holy Spirit came upon Stephen in court, his face started to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Down

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ and leaders did not like that Stephen was teaching about Jesus.
2. The religious leaders \_\_\_\_\_ about Stephen in order to get him in trouble.
4. Stephen never stopped \_\_\_\_\_ as he was being stoned.
8. One Pharisee who really hated Christians was named \_\_\_\_\_.





**Stephen Was Brave**



# THE STONING OF STEPHEN



Discover the hidden words.

P	M	M	F	S	G	Y	L	K	P	N	N	J	Z	C
Q	R	E	F	S	E	E	Q	V	Z	E	B	G	L	B
H	K	A	X	D	A	L	T	I	H	R	F	X	B	M
E	E	A	Y	M	P	W	C	P	J	E	Q	S	F	B
Y	O	G	T	I	B	I	E	A	Z	O	L	O	L	S
L	J	E	R	M	N	T	L	V	R	M	Z	A	G	T
C	H	V	W	X	S	G	V	N	A	I	S	E	L	O
C	H	R	I	S	T	I	A	N	S	P	M	L	O	N
L	I	J	E	S	U	S	N	O	H	U	U	T	W	E
L	E	R	M	H	A	T	E	E	Z	A	F	C	Q	S
U	D	A	S	H	C	X	M	O	S	K	O	E	B	N
G	I	J	D	S	R	Y	G	A	M	E	S	F	P	F
R	E	D	J	E	D	K	W	D	Z	O	U	M	D	A
X	Y	F	J	M	R	P	H	A	R	I	S	E	E	S
W	A	K	C	B	R	S	G	M	E	P	T	G	I	F

## Word Bank

STEPHEN

MIRACLES

BLASPHEMY

HATE

STONES

GLOW

LEADERS

PHARISEES

CHRISTIANS

PRAYING

JESUS

SAUL



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Stephen

V T M J K P W W B R T B D F T S V  
P E G Z I I E O E E B I Q A N M H  
V T C V S R F E A L Y Z N N E O N  
X G N D B H E C P X D I Z Z M T K  
L N O E L R H D A Y R E B X H S B  
O M H S U E N O A D A X R K S U B  
J T V T R A E B E M Y M W S I C E  
U P L S L L K H B I C X U Y N H Z  
K U R Y V N N A G R V Y M N U U U  
C W L V J A W U D A R K B E P U L  
F O P D S Y Y T N C O Q C H L J X  
H O X D T B S B Z L H F R P A J Q  
V S T S E I R P F E I H C E T C Z  
H R B S C O R M M S F Z Z T I T S  
J A U T H O R I T Y P Y R S P C G  
F C Y G R E E K P B G F C A A D Q  
V V D Y C W K F J S X S O Z C F Y

capital punishment	miracles	Authority	Teachers
Elders	Chief Priests	Sanhedrin	Customs
Culture	Wisdom	Spirit	Hebrew
Greek	Holy Land	Stephen	