



Series: Fix Your Eyes on Jesus

Sunday, May 24, 2020

Acts 7:54-8:1

A Time of Worship

Pray—what are some things (or some individuals) you have been praying about this week that you'd like to pray about together?

Opener: *What from last week's lesson have you thought about further this week?*

Bible Study: *Acts 7:54-8:1; refer to Acts 6 to refresh yourself with the story of Stephen*

Discuss:

- What do you make of the problem going on in the church in Jerusalem? What potential for hurt feelings and division were there?
- What do you think about the apostles' suggestion to meet the needs of all their members in the church? How difficult do you imagine this was?
- What type of men did the apostles seek out in delegating this matter to? What was the overarching requirement of character?
- Describe Stephen's attitude as he was hauled before the authorities. How COULD this have gone?
- Instead of giving in or attempting to fight, Stephen used his situation as an opportunity to tell the story of God. As you read thru his recounting of the OT story, what events stand out to you... and why?
- This resulted in Stephen's death, unfortunately, yet his example stands out to us for many reasons. What most strikes you about Stephen's courage & bravery here?

Application:

Can you think of other "issues" churches have wrestled with which stood a good potential of hurt feelings and division? How did you see them resolved... or were they?

What opportunities have you seen during these last few weeks to get creative & courageous in telling the story of God, without being able to meet all together in person?

Are you satisfied with the way you've taken advantage of opportunities to tell the story? Why or why not?

What are you most looking forward to about meeting back together next week (if you'll be able)?

Close in Prayer that God would open the eyes of your heart to see HIM more clearly AND those around you.