

Be Like... Steve! (part 2)

Acts 7

Focus: on living a life of faith that readies us to die a faithful death



Discussion:

- Read Acts 7.1-8.4 aloud together.
- What were Stephen's main charges against the religious leaders? Why were they so incensed by this?
- In what ways can we fall into the same snares that they (and their forefathers) fell into that led them to oppose God's work?
- In verses 54-60, what is most striking to you about Stephen's faith here? From his example, what is God challenging you with, personally?
- In light of 8.1-4, how does this passage attest to God's ability to redeem evil for good? Is there a situation you are facing where you need to trust in that truth?
- Share what it means for you to live a life of faith so that you can die a faithful death. Pray for one another about these vital matters.

I found this article by John Piper on Stephen's martyrdom to be very helpful:

<http://www.desiringgod.org/sermons/the-death-of-a-spirit-filled-man>

here is an intriguing list of martyrs throughout history:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Christian_martyrs

and here is an interesting article on the negative effects of persecution on the church:

<https://www.persecution.net/download/seed.pdf>

2014-2015 Acts Focus

To advance our church in our knowledge and experience of the Spirit in such a way that we will increasingly embrace His ministry in and through us, especially in witness.