

LIFE LINKS

Growing Together



(Remember the point is not to get through all the questions but to facilitate connection between each other and God's word.)

:Life:

What is the best book that you have ever read other than the Bible?

:Bible:

Stephen was one of the seven chosen to minister to the greek speaking widows. It was not long before God called him into the ministry of preaching the gospel. His preaching was so empowered by the Holy Spirit that no one could withstand him. Some opponents began to lie about the content of his message. He was arrested and put on trial before the Sanhedrin, the highest court on this matter. While on trial he tells the story of God throughout history. Stephen exposes the lies that were leveled against him and turns the tables on his accusers. Stephen becomes the first martyr of the church.

Why are stories so powerful in helping us shape our faith?

Are you the type of person who likes to tell stories?

After the death of Stephen the church is scattered throughout Samaria and ultimately the ends of the earth. Why did it take something as extreme as the death of Stephen for the Church to leave Judea?

Read Scripture: Luke 22:25-27; 32 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

After His resurrection Jesus explains to his disciples that all of scripture points to Him. Stephen does much of the same in his defense before the Sanhedrin.

Have you ever read through scripture making connections to Jesus?

How does God's story in history connect with your story?

:Application:

Have you identified your "one"? How can we pray for them?

:Prayer Requests:

