

# Discussion Questions

July 14, 2024

## Acts 6:8-15 Stephen, a Spirit Filled Life

1. We have spent the last 6 months in Acts looking at how the Spirit empowers the Body of Christ to build His Kingdom. Are there ways you have seen growth in your own life, however small or big, of being filled with the Holy Spirit or partnering with Jesus in building His Kingdom?

2. Read Acts 6:8-15

Summarize the passage in your own words.

What do we learn about Stephen from this passage?

3. Stephen's role in the early church was initially administrative, yet he was filled with the Spirit and Grace, and spoke with amazing wisdom. How can we find significance and purpose in the roles we serve, regardless of their perceived importance?
4. Amazingly, as he was being lied about & beaten, Stephens face was full of Grace and aglow with the presence of Jesus and even love for his abusers. What does this tells us about Stephen?

Discuss what this means for us today, and how we can grow in being "full of Grace" even when facing opposition, lies & enemies.

5. How do we balance seeking the Kingdom of God with ensuring your own well-being and that of your family?

Can you share examples of how you navigate this tension?

6. Discuss the 2 questions of reflection given by James as listed below:

What does it look like for me to be part of building God's Kingdom by the power of His Spirit?

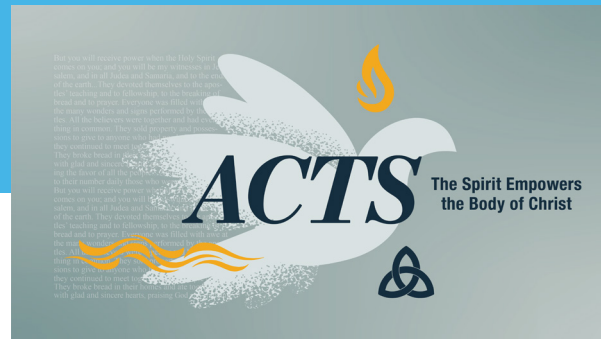
At work?

At home?

At church?

With neighbors, spouse, kids, or friends?

What practical steps can I take to prioritize intentionally seeking to build Jesus' Kingdom and not just my own?



**Acts 6:8-15 (NIV)**

Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed amazing miracles and signs among the people. But one day some men from the Synagogue of Freed Slaves, as it was called, started to debate with him. They were Jews from Cyrene, Alexandria, Cilicia, and the province of Asia. None of them could stand against the wisdom and the Spirit with which Stephen spoke.

So they persuaded some men to lie about Stephen, saying, "We heard him blaspheme Moses, and even God." This roused the people, the elders, and the teachers of religious law. So they arrested Stephen and brought him before the high council.

The lying witnesses said, "This man is always speaking against the holy Temple and against the law of Moses. We have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy the Temple and change the customs Moses handed down to us."

At this point everyone in the high council stared at Stephen, because his face became as bright as an angel's.

**Acts 6:5 (NIV)**

They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit

**Acts 6:8 (NLT)**

Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed amazing miracles and signs among the people.

**Acts 6:9-10 (NLT)**

But one day some men from the Synagogue of Freed Slaves, as it was called, started to debate with him. They were Jews from Cyrene, Alexandria, Cilicia, and the province of Asia. None of them could stand against the wisdom and the Spirit with which Stephen spoke.

**Acts 6:11-12 (NLT)**

So they persuaded some men to lie about Stephen, saying, "We heard him blaspheme Moses, and even God." This roused the people, the elders, and the teachers of religious law. So they arrested Stephen and brought him before the high council.

**Acts 6:13-14 (NLT)**

The lying witnesses said, "This man is always speaking against the holy Temple and against the law of Moses. We have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy the Temple and change the customs Moses handed down to us."

**Acts 6:15 (NLT)**

At this point everyone in the high council stared at Stephen, because his face became as bright as an angel's.

**Acts 7:55 (NIV)**

Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

**Descriptions of Stephen**

Full of faith and of the Holy Spirit (6:5)

Full of God's grace and power (6:8)

Full of wisdom and the Holy Spirit (6:10)

Full of the Holy Spirit (7:55)

**Matthew 6:31–33 (NIV)**

*So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*

**Questions for Reflection:**

1. What does it look like for me to be part of building God's Kingdom by the power of His Spirit?

At work?

At home?

At church?

With neighbors, spouse, kids, or friends?

2. What practical steps can I take to prioritize intentionally seeking to build Jesus' Kingdom and not just my own?