

Aweary
Acts 7:57-8:3
October 3, 2021
Next Steps

OPENING PRAYER:

Dear God, today we stop to pray for those around the world who are persecuted for their faith. You said the world would not like us for choosing to follow you. So many of our brothers and sisters are facing horrible dangers because of their decision to call you Lord. We pray for their protection, for their endurance and their resolve. We ask that you give them peace and assurance as they choose daily to face their persecutors rather than renounce their faith in you. Thank you for the example that they are to us. Give us that same boldness to live our faith out loud, not fearing what others might do or say. May many come to know you because they have seen you in your followers across the Earth. Amen.

BREAKING THE ICE:

- What did you agree or disagree with in the sermon this week?
- Where did you see God this week?
- This about someone you know who faced a life-threatening situation with faith and courage. What do you learn from them?

WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

Read Acts 7:57-8:3. Or consider reading the entire chapter.

- What jumps out at you in this scripture?
- How did Stephen face his impending death? To whom did he look?
- What do you learn from Stephen? How do his last words and death reveal his character?
- Where do you usually turn for help when you are in trouble?
- How did Stephen rely upon God rather than his own strength? What does this teach you?
- Describe a time when you received God's help in a difficult time?

NEXT STEPS:

- Reach out to someone in your life who is having a difficult time. Bring them God's presence.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

We are called to belong, not just to believe.
We are called to be joined together,
Bound together,
Held together,
Fitted together,
Members together,
One with each other,
One together in Christ,
Together, united in Christ's love.