

3. Explain from the _____.
(Acts 7:1-53. C/R: Luke 21:12-15; Mark 13:11;
2 Timothy 3:16-17; Hebrews 4:12)

► Outline

... everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will
suffer persecution.

2 Timothy 3:12 (NLT)

A profile of persecution...

(Acts 6:8-8:1. C/R: Acts 6:5)

1. Express God's _____.
(Acts 6:8-10. C/R: Romans 1:16; 10:13-15;
1 Corinthians 9:16)
2. Experience personal _____.
(Acts 6:11-15. C/R: Matthew 5:11-12; 1 Peter 2:19-20; 3:13-
16; 4:13-14)
3. Endure _____.
(Acts 7:54-8:1. C/R: Romans 12:14; 14:8;
2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Phil. 1:20-21; 1 Pet. 4:12-14)
4. Endure _____.
(Acts 7:54-8:1. C/R: Romans 12:14; 14:8;
2 Corinthians 12:9-10; Phil. 1:20-21; 1 Pet. 4:12-14)

Answers: 1. truth 2. attacks 3. Bible 4. mistreatment

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit brookwoodchurch.org/adults.

Conversation Starter

Where in the world would you most like to live? Least?

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Ask God to help you experience His love and hear His voice as you reflect on this week's lesson.

Bible Study and Group Discussion

Read [Acts 6:8-15](#).

1. What inspires you most about how Stephen is described ([vs. 8, 10, 15](#))?
2. What charges did the Jews bring against Stephen?
3. In a typical week, what contact do you have with people who hold different views from yours?
4. How do you typically relate to such people?

Read [Acts 7:1-53](#).

5. When Stephen replied to the high priest, what do you think his motivation was for including the accounts of Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Joshua and David?
6. How are Stephen's accusers guilty of the very things they were accusing him of ([vs. 51-53](#))?

Read [Acts 7:54-8:3](#).

7. What does it mean to be *full of the Holy Spirit*? Is this something you regularly experience? Explain.

8. What opposition or persecution have you faced, if any, because of your Christian faith?
9. Have you ever shared stories or truths from Scripture with someone who didn't believe in God? How did that go?
10. What would it take for you to become like Stephen? What steps will you take?

Spiritual Practice

[Spiritual Practices are steps we take to allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives. These aren't meant to be one-time actions, but practices that become a natural part of our lives.]

Visit brookwoodchurch.org/next-steps/adults/serve/partners and select one of the Brookwood Global Partners. Pray for Christian leaders in that area to have the strength and courage to persevere through the persecution they face in sharing the Gospel. Make a plan to pray for our Global Partners on a regular basis (weekly, monthly or however the Lord leads).

Memory Verse

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. [2 Timothy 1:7 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

- Day 1: [Romans 10:9-17](#) Day 4: [Psalm 119:137-144](#)
Day 2: [1 Peter 4:12-19](#) Day 5: [Philippians 1:12-20](#)
Day 3: [Hebrews 4:12-13](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Sunday, November 8, we'll continue the series titled *Church Empowered*. To prepare, read [Acts 8](#).