

Trailblazers: 4th-5th Grades

Bible Study

Needed: Bible

- **Distribute** Bibles.
- **Guide** your kid(s) to **open their Bible** to Acts
- **Ask** them to read Acts 7, **then reread** Acts 7:54-55

Discussion Questions to Ask Kids:

1. How did Stephen show love to those who hated him?

Guide kids to recognize that even as he was being killed, Stephen prayed for those who were hurting him. He asked God to forgive them. Point out that Jesus also prayed for His enemies as He died on the cross. (Option: Read Luke 23:34.)

2. How do you think Stephen was able to face suffering so courageously?

Emphasize to kids that the Bible is clear that when we do God's work, He is working through us. We may feel afraid when facing suffering, but we can ask the Holy Spirit to give us peace and courage. (Option: Read John 16:33.)

3. Have you ever been laughed at or made fun of because you go to church or read your Bible? Would you ever change your mind about Jesus because you didn't want to feel left out or embarrassed?

Lead kids to discuss persecution and how it makes them feel. Explain that in some countries, it is illegal to own a Bible or tell others about Jesus. Even today, Christians in many nations face imprisonment or death for their faith in Jesus. They are not allowed to meet with other believers to worship God or read His Word. (Option: Read Matt. 5:11-12.)

Activity: Is This True?

Needed: Bibles

Instructions:

1. Explain that you will read a statement and then give a Bible verse.
2. Your kids should find the verse and determine if the statement is true or false.
3. If false, kids should correct the statement.
4. Use the following statements or include your own:

- I heard that God told Abram never to leave his home. Is this true? (Gen. 12:1)
- I heard that God promised to give Abram a big family. Is this true? (Gen. 15:5)
- I heard that Joseph's brothers sold him to traders going to Jerusalem. Is this true? (Gen. 37:28)
- I heard that Joshua led the Israelites across the Nile River. Is this true? (Josh. 3:17)
- I heard that David fought a giant who was more than nine feet tall. Is this true? (1 Sam. 17:4)

Say, "Stephen preached about Jesus no matter what. Stephen was killed because he was a Christian. Jesus told His followers that they would be persecuted for loving Him. We can face suffering in this life because Jesus suffered first. He died and then rose again, and He is waiting for us in heaven."