

Dear Children's Ministry Leaders,

In light of churches across the country closing in response to COVID-19 safety precautions, we at Group Publishing want to ensure that your children continue to receive spiritual nurturing. As a result, Group is allowing churches who use our materials to send families lessons and student materials your kids would normally participate in at church. We hope you enjoy using this content in a different way, and that your kids are impacted.

Group is extending the following permissions to churches upon request:

- 1. Permission to share the included student materials with families from your churches via email, postal service, or a privately accessible, password-protected website that only families from your church can access.**
- 2. Permission to share other elements from the week's lesson, such as the teacher guide that goes along with this lesson, with families from your churches via email, postal service, or a privately accessible, password-protected website that only families from your church can access.**
- 3. Permission to share a video recording presenting this lesson with families via your church website or platform of your choice. (We ask that you remove the video each week when you post a new one.)**

You may decide to offer a video broadcast or pre-recorded video where you and your regular Children's Ministry crew lead these lessons digitally for families to partake in at home. Or you may encourage parents to lead these lessons, which creates a fun opportunity for them to see what a typical lesson for their kids is like.

This permission is granted on a limited basis for as long as your church is unable to meet in person. Families are encouraged to use these materials within their households, but may not publish or share them in any way outside of your church family.

If you want to use Group's materials beyond these permissions, email permissions@group.com.

We hope God blesses your congregation through this unusual season, and that your community remains strong even though for a time you may not be meeting together.

God bless you, and stay healthy!

- Your friends at Group Publishing



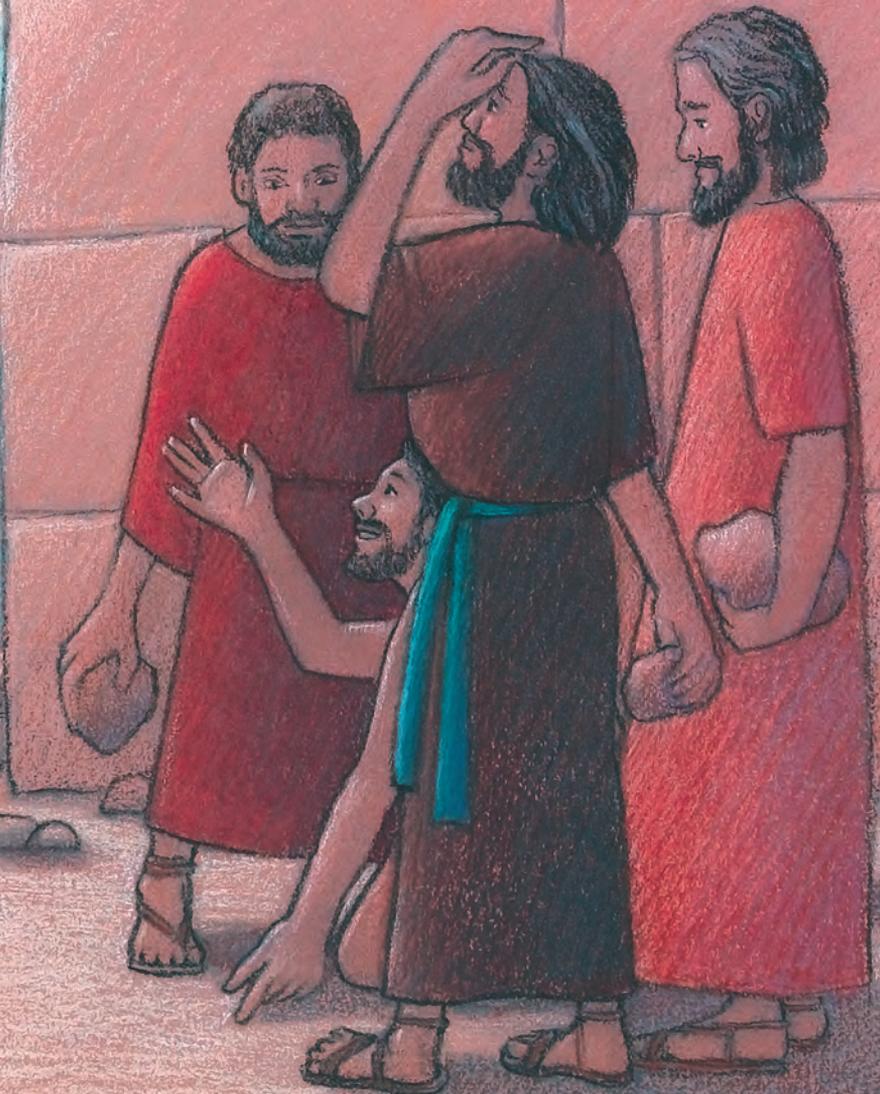
Name _____

Stephen **FORGIVES** His Accusers as They Stone Him

Acts 6:8-7:60



Glue here.



Instructions: Let children glue 3X3-inch squares of construction paper on one side so that the "door" can be opened and closed. Help children tell about Stephen. When they get to the part of the story in which Stephen sees heaven open, have children open the door and finish telling what happened. (For additional instructions, see the Teacher Guide.)

Make a tasty popcorn snack with your child. Let your child make popcorn in a microwave; then put the popcorn in a large bowl. Take turns telling why you believe in Jesus as you work with your child to cut up dried apples and peaches and add them to the bowl. Then add mini



pretzels and raisins or M&M's. Mix the ingredients together as you talk about Jesus. Then eat and enjoy!

ASK 🌀 What do you believe about Jesus?

🌀 Who can you tell about Jesus?

What I Learned Today...

Bible Time: This week's Scripture (Acts 6:8-7:60) tells us that we're brave for Jesus. Stephen was a man who loved to tell others about Jesus. Some people who didn't love Jesus, however, tried to stop Stephen by taking him to court. Stephen boldly told everyone how God cares for his people and keeps his promises. But the crowd became angry. They took Stephen outside the city and threw rocks at him. Stephen looked up and saw heaven open with Jesus standing at the right hand of God. Stephen forgave the people, just as Jesus forgave the people who killed him. Stephen died sharing Jesus with others.

Key Verse: We can teach the world about Jesus (adapted from Matthew 28:19-20).

Daily Challenge

Your child learned we're brave for Jesus.

Your child committed to one of the following

challenges to share Jesus and his love with others in daily life. Help your child weave faith into life this week and follow through on the challenge!

- 🌀 Make a new friend this week. Tell your new friend all about Jesus.
- 🌀 Ask your mom and dad to show you a picture of the world. Pray for people around the world being brave for Jesus and ask God to help you be brave for Jesus, too.
- 🌀 Use your stuffed animals and toys to put on a play about Stephen for your family. At the end, tell them one way you can be brave for Jesus.



Work with your child to make Kitchen Characters to share things about Jesus. Find an assortment of kitchen utensils, such as a whisk, a wooden spoon, or a ladle. Draw faces

on construction paper circles, and tape the faces to the utensils. Have the Kitchen Characters say things about Jesus, such as

"Jesus loves me," "Jesus died for me," or "Jesus is God's Son."

ASK 🌀 What did our characters tell us about Jesus?

🌀 Why does God want us to share Jesus with others?

🌀 How can you tell about Jesus?

