

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on [thorncreek.church/live](http://thorncreek.church/live))

**Warming up**

1. Who is Jesus Christ to you? Is it important to spend time with Him everyday in prayer and bible devotion?

**Digging Deeper & Application**

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Please read Acts 6:8-15. What do you see in this passage and what verse jumps out at you and why?
  - a. How would you describe Stephen?
  - b. Do you think Stephen's face really became as bright as an angel?
3. In Acts 7, Stephen preaches a sermon. These religious people did not need to be educated on the history of Israel. Beginning with verse one, read through this message.
  - a. Read Acts 7:1-52. As you read it, see if you can identify Stephen's point to these religious leaders. What is the message that is consistent throughout this sermon?
  - b. What are some lessons or warnings you can apply to your own life as you read through this passage. Take your time!!!
4. According to Acts 7:51-53, what did Stephen call these religious people? What's the warning for us in this passage? What are your thoughts on these two quotes? "There is nothing progressive about being pig headed and refusing to admit a mistake." (C.S. Lewis).
  - a. "A man must be big enough to admit his mistakes, smart enough to profit from them, and strong enough to correct them." (John C. Maxwell). Are you a stubborn person?

5. According to Acts 7:54-58, what happened? What stands out to you?
6. What was Stephen's final prayer in Acts 7:59-60? What does this tell you about Stephen?
7. Stephen's sermon appears to have had no positive fruit. Not one person turned to Jesus because of his sermon. Not one person repented. Do you think Stephen's sermon and death made a difference in Christianity?
8. Have you ever felt like your obedience to God is not making a difference?
9. What is the biggest take away for you in the story of Stephen?

### **Application**

Below are some of the points shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- For Stephen...JESUS was MORE THAN...
  - More than a religion.
  - More than a ritual.
  - More than a building.
  - More than a symbol.
  - More than a good person.
  - More than a good teacher.
  - More than a wise man.
  - More than a historical figure.
  - More than an option.
- Who is Jesus to you?