



## INTRODUCTION

The Christian should be ready for suffering, eager to proclaim Christ, and willing to lose everything.

## INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore, please use it as a tool that best fits the needs of your small group.

## OPENING DISCUSSION

- What was your biggest take-away from the sermon?

## REVIEW

- Have someone read **Acts 6:8-8:1a**.
- Why should Christians expect suffering or persecution for our faith?
- How is the life of a Christian a call to a radical life?
- What does it mean to walk in the Spirit in the midst of persecution (Matt. 10:16-25, John 14:26)?
- What were the two complaints that Stephen addressed in his sermon (vv. 11, 13-14)?
- Why do non-Christians respond in anger towards the gospel?
- Where does Stephen find the ability to forgive those who are stoning him?

## APPLICATION

- Do you shy away from sharing your beliefs and faith in Christ to avoid being ostracized by others?
- With the beginning of a new year, can you say that you shared the gospel with anyone last year?
- Share your most recent experience in sharing the gospel.
- Do you hunger for God and his Word so that the Holy Spirit can give you wisdom and Scripture in your moment of need?
- What comfort does the resurrected Christ offer to persecuted Christians?
- Is there someone that made fun of you or persecuted you for your faith that you need to forgive?

## PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- Pray for opportunities to share the gospel.
- Is there any sin you should confess in light of this passage?
- Are there any other prayer needs?