

## Stephen Seized - Acts 6:8-15

**Topics:** Accusation, Blasphemy, Conflict, Grace, Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, Law, Miracles, Opposition, People, Power, Traditions, Wisdom

### Open It

1. Who, in your view, is one of the most outstanding leaders in the world today?
2. Among your coworkers and neighbors, what do you think people consider you—controversial, moderate, liberal, or conservative? Why?
- \* 3. When was a time you were falsely accused? What happened?

### Explore It

- \* 4. Who was Stephen? (6:8)
5. What kind of person was Stephen? (6:8)
6. Besides caring for the needs of the widows, what did Stephen do among the people? (6:8)
7. Who opposed Stephen? (6:9)
8. Why couldn't Stephen's opponents get the better of him? (6:10)
- \* 9. What kind of charges did Stephen's enemies make against him? (6:11)
10. How did the people react to the charges against Stephen? (6:12)
- \* 11. How did the false witnesses misrepresent Stephen? (6:13-14)
12. Why did certain people consider Stephen dangerous? (6:13-14)
13. When those in the Sanhedrin looked at Stephen, what did they see? (6:15)
14. What did the expression on Stephen's face show about his relationship to God? (6:15)

### Get It

- \* 15. What does it mean to be "full of God's grace and power"?
16. If Stephen were alive today, how might other religious groups oppose him?
17. What qualities of Stephen would you like to see in your own life?
18. What theological issues do people argue about in your church?
19. What are some good ways to handle disagreements about doctrine?
20. What religious traditions do Christians sometimes value or cling to over biblical truth?
21. What character qualities help a person face conflict or opposition?
- \* 22. What should we do when we are falsely accused?
23. In what ways do we need the Holy Spirit's filling so our gifts can be used effectively?

### Apply It

24. How can you be open to God's use this week?
- \* 25. What can you do to copy Stephen's example whenever you are falsely accused in some way?
26. What do you want to remember the next time you are falsely accused?