

Acts of the Apostles

A Bible Study

Grace's OASIS (On-line Adult Study in Spirit)
Class/Discussion

Fall, 2021

WEEK 3: CHAPTERS 6-8

Brief Introduction

Acts 6:

- **Deacons are chosen to serve as stewards of a growing church. (6:1-7)**
- **False witnesses accuse Stephen, the first deacon, of blasphemy. (6:8-15)**

Acts 7:

- **Stephen reviews the history of the God of Abraham with the Jews. (7:1-50)**
- **Stephen expounds his faith and is stoned to death (the 1st martyr). (7:51-60)**

Acts 8:

- **Saul (the future Paul) witnesses and approves of Stephen's stoning. (8:1)**
- **Saul persecutes the nascent Christian church; it is dispersed. (8:2-3)**
- **The apostles take the word and the holy spirit to foreign lands. (8:4-40)**

Breakout Session 1:

What jumped out at you in these chapters?

Or what surprised you in these chapters?

Or what inspired you in these chapters?

Or what was new to you in these chapters?

Breakout Session 2:

1. How is the early church shown to be responding to rapid growth?
2. Why does Stephen recount the history of the Jews (up to Solomon) as his "defense," when the Jewish leaders already know it very well?
3. How does Stephen change the focus of the new Christianity?
4. In chapter 8 the church begins a worldwide evangelism. How should we today respond to Jesus's teachings in this regard ["make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19-20)]?

Next Week (10/3)

Read Chapters 9-10

**(Saul's conversion and Peter among
the Gentiles)**