

2. His Gifts: [1 Cor. 12, Romans 12, 1 Peter 4, Eph. 4:11]
3. His Peace: [John 14:27, Phil. 4:7]
4. His Faith: [2 Cor. 5:7, Rom. 10:17]
5. His Wisdom: [James 1:5]
6. His Grace: power to save, keep, and do His will [Eph. 2:8-9, 2 Cor. 12:9]
7. His people who have gone through what you're through

### FactorPoints

**He's Here... WORSHIP:** In your time of prayer, reading and worship, seek God for the infilling of the Holy Spirit. If you have been filled, ask for Him to fill you daily, and develop your prayer language. Give God glory through this gifting.

**He Knows... LEARN:** Read and study what God's Word says about the Gifts of the Spirit, Peace, Faith, Wisdom, Grace, and Others. Start with the verses given. Memorize Romans 8:28.

**He's Able... SERVE:** Be ACTivated by identifying your current struggle, crisis, or walls as "momentary," and "light afflictions". Talk to others, and share with them how, for you as a disciple of Jesus, what you're going through is leading up to something greater: God's glory.

### NOTES

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# ACT IVATE

The Story Continues...

ACTivate LAB: Week 5



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## INTRODUCTION

Within the first seven chapters of Acts, the Church has been birthed and established in Jerusalem. Disciples of the Way believed in Jesus, received the gift of the infilling of the Holy Spirit, and spoke out boldly to everyone in the city; some to their salvation. There were some so-called disciples who sought glory for themselves, while others genuinely gave glory unto God. These considered it JOY to suffer, be beaten, imprisoned and even martyred for Christ's sake: "momentary," and "light afflictions".

## THE WEIGHT OF GLORY

2 CORINTHIANS 4:13-18

We are called to be **glory-couriers**: those who transport the glory of the Lord from Him throughout the earth in order for others to see it and seek Him.

Biblical examples:

- Moses asked to see God's glory [Ex. 33:18]
- Priests could not minister because of the glory [1 Kings 8:11]
- Levites carrying the Ark needed God's help [1 Chron. 15:25]
- Ananias and Sapphira sought glory for themselves [Acts 5:1-11]
- Stephen sought only glory for God [Acts 7]

## THE FALSE FINISH LINE

Stephen was killed; martyred for what he believed, even though he was saying what the Holy Spirit was telling him to say.

**Discussion Questions:**

**Do you struggle with the uncertainty of death? Why?**

**Death** is a false finish line. This is why so many paint erroneous pictures in order to cope with it.

We say all too often, "She lost her battle against \_\_\_\_." Persecution and even death are "**momentary, light afflictions.**" For the disciple of Christ, we must begin to look at birth, death, and events in between as points on an **eternal** timeline. Phil. 1:21, Roman 8:16-17, 28-30

## THE TRUE FINISH LINE - ETERNITY

JAMES 1:1-3

Stephen considered it a joy as his faith was tested far beyond our 21st Century breaking points. He endured the false accusations (Acts 6:11) and false arrest (6:12). He endured the stoning (Acts 7:58-59)

Stephen's gaze was into eternity. His very words, "**Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God,**" compelled the non-believers to stone him; but the one pre-believer, Saul, who would indeed bring transformation to the world, held coats in silence. Ephesians 1:13

The Holy Spirit always produces **life**, even though we experience death. The True Finish Line is not physical death. We are spirit/soul/body beings, and our spirit and soul live on in new bodies, which God has waiting for us in **eternity.**

## LAB WORK: TOOLS TO USE

God has given us practical tools to help us overcome the thought of death (without Him), tribulation or persecution, and to walk in the True Finish Line:

1. Infilling of the Holy Spirit: [Acts 8:14-17, 19:2]

### WEEK 5 READING: ACTS 7

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