

The Unstoppable Church (4)

The First Martyr

Acts 6-7

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Intro:

Scripture & Observations:

1. Stephen was originally chosen for an administrative task, (serving food to neglected widows) yet he is described as being "full of the Spirit and wisdom" (Acts 6:3, 5). How does this challenge the way we view "sacred" versus "secular" tasks in the church?

2. Like last week, we see that although someone performed great wonders, he still met intense arguments and false accusations. Why do you think living a grace-filled life doesn't exempt us from conflict or misunderstanding?

3. In Acts 7:48-50, Stephen challenges the idea that God can be "contained" in a building made by human hands. In what ways do we sometimes try to "confine" or domesticate God within our own preferred traditions, comfort zones, or institutions?

Application:

4. Stephen's final words echo Jesus on the cross: "Lord, do not hold this sin against them". Where does that kind of radical forgiveness come from?