

Book of Acts
Sermon Series
May 22, 2022
Acts 7:44-8:1



Sermon Listening & Discussion Guide

1. Information didn't become _____
2. _____ is not enough to create transformation
3. Stephen tells the Sanhedrin, "You always resist the _____"
4. The Spirit-empowered person has a change of heart and is a _____

Answers: 1. transformation 2. Willpower 3. Holy Spirit 4. new creation

GETTING STARTED

1. Scripture calls Stephen Spirit-filled. **What do we know about Stephen?**

Read and share your thoughts:

- a. Acts 6: 5-6
 - b. Acts 6:8
 - c. Act 6:15
 - d. Acts 7:55-56
 - e. Acts 7: 59-60
2. **Can you think of examples in your life where information didn't become transformation? (i.e. Information that you have heard or read about repeatedly but it didn't become part of your lifestyle?)**

- 3. Some people describe themselves as a Christian but are reluctant to dig deeper into their faith. Why do you think this is the case?**

DIGGING DEEPER

- 4. Christians can read the Bible, raise a church-going family, serve in the community, and pray. What difference does the Holy Spirit make when we invite Him into these activities?**
- 5. Change can be hard, even when we know the change will be good for our physical or mental health, our financial situation or our faith walk. How does the Holy Spirit help us?**
- 6. We often think of the Holy Spirit being available to us after Jesus' resurrection, but the Holy Spirit is referred to several times in the Old Testament. At this time, His activity was limited to particular people at particular times for particular tasks:
 - a. Read Genesis 1: 1-2, Exodus 31: 3-5, Judges 15:4**
 - b. How does these passages expand your understanding of the Holy Spirit's work on our lives?****

MAKING IT APPLICABLE

- 7. Have you been filled with the Holy Spirit? What does the Bible say about being filled with the Holy Spirit?
 - a. Acts 2 (spoiler alert: Pentecost)**
 - b. Acts 9 (conversion of Paul)**
 - c. Acts 10:44-46 (Holy Spirit poured onto Gentiles)**
 - d. Acts 19: 1-7**
 - e. Galatians 5:22 (results in us when we are filled with the Spirit)****

CHALLENGE

How would you encourage someone to be filled with the Holy Spirit? What would you say? Do you have examples from your own life you would share?