

## *Stephen: Strength and Power*



<sup>5</sup> What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.

<sup>7</sup> The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

### **The Arrest of Stephen**

<sup>8</sup> Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup> Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. <sup>10</sup> But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. <sup>11</sup> Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." <sup>12</sup> They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. <sup>13</sup> They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law, <sup>14</sup> for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." <sup>15</sup> And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.



**get excited!**

(5 minutes)

You  
Tube

### Verse to Remember

"Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people."

**Acts 6:8.**

Read the "Lesson Summary" and "Affirmation" out loud.

#### LESSON SUMMARY

We need strength and courage to please God.

#### AFFIRMATION

Courage is my superpower.

## key verse exercise

Use your imagination to assign superpowers to each of these pictures. For example, these shoes will have invisible prints so my shoe tracks can't be traced. Share your ideas.





**read and learn!**  
(10 minutes)

## STEPHEN: STRENGTH AND POWER

**ZAYA:** Who is your favorite superhero? And, why?

**ZION:** I think that all superheroes are my favorite because they have great physical power. They can do things that regular human beings don't have the strength to do.

**ZAYA:** Well you know there is another type of power. It is spiritual power. Spiritual power is having strength and courage to please God. For example, there was a man in the Bible named Stephen who was a superhero for Jesus. One day, the church leaders were looking for helpers to take care of the older women in the church. They needed faith-FULL people.

**ZION:** Faith-full? I remember hearing about that in last week's lesson.

**ZAYA:** Yes. Stephen was faith-FULL. So the leaders chose Stephen to be a help-

er. The Bible says that Stephen was full of grace and power. Grace was God's strength, courage, and love that Stephen had because he was faithful. He had a lot of spiritual power to explain what Jesus taught. When Stephen talked, people listened to him. Some people listened, but they didn't like what he said. But Stephen was not afraid to teach about Jesus because he had spiritual power, courage, and love. He was not afraid to be different.

**ZION:** Well, sometimes children need courage, which is spiritual power so they can make good decisions even when others are not doing the right thing. Sometimes children need spiritual power to treat all people with kindness, even people that other children don't like.

**ZAYA:** I believe that Christian children want to be like Stephen. They want to be spiritual superheroes.



## Questions

Who is Stephen?  
What is spiritual power?



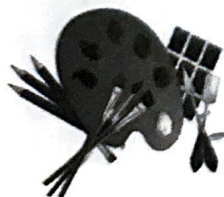




Help Zion and Zaya with this week's **Superhero Challenge:** **"COURAGE."** Help the Faithful Five create a recipe for courage.



craft time



**Crafts  
& More**

time to pray



Dear God, give us spiritual power to live right. We pray in the name of Jesus who had strength and power. Amen.