



## How To Be A Martyr

Acts 6:8 – 7:60

Series: Acts, #7

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Theme: **A true witness lives like Christ.**

**Live out your life with Christ-like character.**

*Building blocks of a Christ-like character.*

1. Being full of grace. (6:8)
2. Being full of power. (6:8)
3. Being full of wisdom. (6:10)
4. Being full of the Spirit. (6:10)

**Reach out with Christ-like ministry.**

1. Begin with faithful completion of your responsibilities. (7:1-53; cf. 6:1-7)
2. Keep alert for all opportunities. (6:8 f.)

**Endure with Christ-like suffering.**

1. Suffering under false accusations. (6:11-15)
2. Suffering under cruel treatment. (7:54-60)

**End up with Christ-like triumph.**

1. Triumph in your attitude toward your enemies. (7:60)
2. Triumph in your attitude toward death. (7:59)

## In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

**Monday.** Read Acts 6:8 - 7:60. Every believer is called to be a witness of Jesus Christ (cf. 1:8). A true witness lives like Christ. This begins with Christ-like character. Review the four building blocks of Christ-like character in Stephen found in 6:8, 10. Now evaluate your own character by reviewing the last week in light of these traits. Note specific points where you need to grow.

**Tuesday.** A true witness reaches out with Christ-like ministry. This includes faithfully completing your responsibilities. Do you sometimes start a ministry activity (e.g., at church, in your family) and then lose interest, let it slide, or abandon it? Ask God to strengthen you to carry out your ministries with thoroughness to completion. A Christ-like ministry is also marked by being alert to opportunities, including unexpected ones. How have you responded to unexpected opportunities to serve Christ and others over the last few days?

**Wednesday.** A true witness endures with Christ-like suffering. We are not dragged out and stoned when we witness for Christ. We sometimes face ridicule and rejection. How do you respond, go through that suffering? Review Stephen's example in 6:11-15 and 7:54-60.

**Thursday.** Stephen's true witness led him to Christ-like triumph. Triumph in his attitude toward his enemies (7:60) and toward being killed because of his witness (7:59). What are your thoughts about people who reject your witness or say and do negative, hurtful things? Our triumph also comes through Christ-like character and ministry.

**Friday – Saturday.** On Sunday we plan to look at Acts 8:1-25. Read and reflect on it in preparation for our time together.