

WE LAY DOWN OUR LIVES TO PROCLAIM GOSPEL TRUTH

BIG TRUTH: WE LAY DOWN OUR LIVES TO PROCLAIM GOSPEL TRUTH

Mark 8:34-36; 1 John 3:16; Philippians 1:21; 2 Corinthians 4:5; Colossians 1:24; Mark 16:15; Luke 9:60

BIBLE VERSE: ACTS 7:56-58

“And he said, ‘Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’ But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.”

BIG IDEAS

- We pursue grace and power to speak with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.
- We proclaim who God is and what God has done.
- We faithfully follow Jesus until the end no matter the cost.

BIBLE PASSAGE: ACTS 6:8-7:60

KNEEL: LIVING ON MISSION

The Kneel Year is an exploration of what it means to worship God with our all (Luke 10:26-28) and to use our influence to lead others to do the same. We know that as we pursue a life of worship, we will pursue a life of both wisdom and mission. Throughout this year we will study and pursue the wisdom of God through the book of Proverbs and the mission of God through the book of Acts, and we will learn how both of these things must inform and shape our influence as Jesus followers!

SERIES AIMS



Every student should know...

- The gospel has the power to turn the world upside down.
- They are empowered and chosen to be a gospel witness in the world.
- Our salvation has come by grace alone.



Every student should feel...

- Comfort that the Lord is with them wherever they go.
- Hope in the God of salvation.
- Responsible to use their influence to live for Jesus alone.



Every student should strive to...

- Read, study, and meditate on the entire book of Acts.
- Memorize the Bible verse each week.
- Pray consistently for boldness to make Jesus known.



Every student should want...

- To pursue faithfulness in living on mission.
- To share the gospel with people in their lives who do not know Jesus.
- To sacrifice their personal freedoms for the sake of the gospel

STUDENT WORKOUT:

This week we will ponder what it means to proclaim the Gospel no matter the cost. We will pray for a heart willing to lay down our lives for the Gospel as we practice proclaiming the Gospel to others.

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Read Acts 6:8-7:60 and make notes in your journal. Answer the questions below in your journal as well:

- Make a list of the characteristics that you note about Stephen from Acts 6:8-7:60. What are some things you notice about how he interacts with and responds to others?
- Make a list of the number of times Luke notes that the Spirit is with Stephen or the wisdom of the Spirit is with Stephen. Why do you think Luke points this out?
- How does Stephen's speech reveal what he believes is true about Jesus? How does this anger his listeners?
- What do Stephen's last words reveal about his motive for telling others about Jesus?

Read and meditate on Acts 6:8-7:60 this week. Use the questions below to guide your meditation:

- Ponder the life of Stephen in comparison to your own. Would you respond to persecutors the way that he did? Why or why not?
- Consider what it means to be full of the grace and power of the Spirit and to speak from His wisdom.
- Ponder how you can tell others about Jesus and how they can experience redemption through Him.



Pray with your parents this week.

- Ask God to help you seek grace and power from the Holy Spirit to speak with His wisdom.
- Pray with your small group leader this week. Ask God to give you opportunities to tell others about Him. Pray for boldness to take these opportunities.



Memorize Acts 7:56-58 this week.

- Write the verses on index cards or put them in your phone. Ask a friend or your parents to help you memorize them.
- Ask your parents to help you count the cost of following Jesus. Ask them to help you consider the things you struggle to give up and how challenging it would be to give up your life. Commit to pray for a heart that is willing to give up everything to spread the Gospel.
- Meet with your small group leader to discuss some ways you can serve in your local church. Ask your small group leader to help you serve in ways that enable you to tell others about Jesus.