



# LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

## “Grace in Tragedy”

**Acts 7:54-8:3**

### **Community Building Talking Point**

It's a new Year! What hopes and dreams do you have for the new year? Do you have any resolutions or new rhythms you hope to build into your life that help you grow closer to God and his people?

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. Can you think of ways that technology helps us see two realities come together? For example, Pastor Kendall used the examples of Pokémon Go, shopping on Amazon or digitally “trying on” glasses before buying them.
2. This week we look at the great tragedy of Stephen's death as the first Christian martyr. What is a martyr and why do we remember and celebrate them? Can you think of others who have paid the ultimate price for what they believe in?
3. Why were those in the Sanhedrin so upset by what Stephen was saying?
4. One thing we learn from Stephen is that the living truth is worth dying for. Why would the truth of Jesus be worth dying for? What difference does the truth of Jesus make?
5. In times of great suffering or tragedy, God reveals his presence in ways not seen otherwise. Why does the book of Acts tell us what Stephen sees as he looks up? When have you gone through a truly difficult time but saw God at work in new ways?
6. As Stephen's death causes the church to scatter, we see how they go the very places to which Jesus said they would be witnesses. God can use even tragedies to spread his good news. How does God redeem the story of Stephen here?
7. How can you see God spreading good news even in times of tragedy?
- 8.

Pray with each other, sharing each other's concerns with God, but also praying for the Spirit to open up the doors for our witness to Jesus.