

*Use the following thoughts and questions to have one spiritual conversation. You can pick and choose, use them all or just allow the statement to be your guide. The emphasis shouldn't be about having all the answers, but simply having a conversation.*

**Scripture**

Acts 6:8-15; 7:44-60

## 1. Opening Statement

*Begin your conversation by asking about this main point:*

**God calls us to make much of Jesus, even when we are persecuted.**

This main point is the biblical truth the student's study was built around. Each week there will be one statement that ties the whole study together. These would be great statements to remember together. The hope is that thoughts and ideas will stem from these statements. You can also begin by sharing a thought of your own that you learned during your study of the same session. Ask what thoughts were surprising as the study was taught.

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## 2. Thought From the Study

Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, received a reputation for performing signs and wonders while testifying to the Jews about who Jesus is. As a result, he attracted the attention of men who wanted to argue with him. They challenged him and hoped to stop his testimony, but because he was wise and filled with the Spirit of God, their efforts fell short.

- **When has someone lied about something you said or done in order to get you in trouble? How did the false witnesses do the same to Stephen?**

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## 3. Quote for Discussion

*Discuss this quote together. How does this change your understanding of a relationship with Jesus?*

**God is heaven-bent on inviting me to share in his joy, peace, and power. But there's a catch. God only shares his joy on his terms, and those terms call for us, in some measure, to suffer as his beloved Son did while on earth.**

— Joni Eareckson Tada

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## 4. Conversation Questions

*Use these questions to begin thinking through and applying the lessons to your family life:*

1. Name some people our family knows who have suffered or been persecuted because of their faith.
2. What can our family learn from the persecuted believers and martyrs who have gone before us?
3. How can our family keep motives and fears in check when needing to defend our faith?
4. What are some ways we can stand strong in our faith? What are some things we might have to defend against? How would we defend against those things?