

**Life Group Notes**  
**1<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

**Learning from Stephen – the ordinary radical**

Don't feel that you should cover all the topics/questions – ask God to reveal what will be most useful for your life group.

**Stephen is Spirit-filled**

Read Acts 6:8-15

- *How is Stephen described in Acts 6? (See v5, v8, v10 and v15)*
- *What does being filled with the Spirit look like for Stephen?*
- *How does this match with your experience of being filled with the Spirit?*
- *Spend time praying for each other, that you would increasingly experience being filled with the Spirit like Stephen – including the boldness that brings.*

**Stephen is soaked in Scripture**

In Acts 7:2-53 Luke records Stephen's speech to the Sanhedrin. In it Stephen draws on Jewish history to make his case – including arguing that God's work is not limited to the land of Israel, and that worship is not limited to the temple in Jerusalem.

- *Daniel described Stephen's speech as a model for responding theologically to opposition and objections. What did you make of this? Can you think of any examples where this is important?*

Read Acts 7:51-53 – the conclusion of Stephen's speech

- *What does Stephen say in response to the accusations against him?*
- *What does this tell us about his knowledge of the Old Testament?*
- *What's your experience of reading the Old Testament? Discuss ideas for being more soaked in the Scriptures – particularly the Old Testament.*

**Stephen shows Jesus**

Read Acts 7:54-60 – the account of Stephen's death

- *How does Stephen bear witness to Jesus in his life and death?*
- *What can we learn from Stephen?*
- *What does being an ordinary radical look like for you? How can you follow Stephen's example of following Jesus?*