

Come On Bruh Bible Study 8: Covering Your Ears Won't Make the Message Disappear –

Acts 7:54-60

Getting Things Started

- Stephen is one of the seven deacons chosen to help the 11 Apostles distribute food to the widows
 - The Saul at the end of today's lesson is the same Saul who will later be converted on the road to Damascus.
 - Stephen is arrested for blasphemy & preaches a sermon about how the Jewish people have been resisting God during his hearing before the Sanhedrin (Highest Ruling Court or Jewish society at the time).
- 1) Why do you think some people refuse to listen to any perspective other than the one that they decided is true?

Into the Text

- 2) What evidence do you see in the text that suggests that the members of Sanhedrin heard message but refused to accept that the message came from God?

- 3) Look at verses 59-60 and compare them to Luke 23:24. Compare and contrast Stephen's reaction to those stoning him to Jesus' reaction to those crucifying him?

Stephen....	Jesus....

- 4) What make the crowd shift from just making angry noises & faces at Stephen to stoning him?

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Bringing Things Current:

- 5) Stephen, much like Jesus before him, challenged so core beliefs held by the Jewish leadership at the time in ways that the leadership couldn't successfully challenge. Since they couldn't successfully argue against the message, the leaders sought to silence the messenger. How do church leaders today seek to silence messengers whose message they cannot successfully challenge?

- 6) After Stephen was killed, the believers expanded their message beyond Jerusalem. What are some modern examples of how a group's attempt to silence a messenger of Jesus Christ have led to the message reaching a larger group of people?
