

SUNDAY, MAY 21

▣ Acts 8:1-25 (Mark if read)

**Acts 8:12** *But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.*

When you believe in something or someone, you are not shamed to identify with it. This is exactly what baptism is. It is telling the world that I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Often people live like "closet-Christians." Don't be afraid to set yourself apart so the world knows whose side you are on!

Hey! We are on the winning side. We are on the the Lord's side. He died for us. He was not ashamed of us. Let's stand up for him and IMMERSE ourselves in the Christian life!

### QUESTIONS

13. What happened to the church in Jerusalem because of the great persecution? \_\_\_\_\_

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In all thy ways acknowledge him,  
and he shall direct thy paths.  
PROVERBS 3:6

**DAILY DIRECTION**

**ISSUE 20 | May 15-21**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

—THROUGH THE NEW TESTAMENT—

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH | PALMYRA, NY

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MONDAY, MAY 15

▣ Acts 5:1-21 (Mark if read)

*Ac 5:3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?*

The Lord does not take very kindly to us using His platform to exalt ourselves. It is so sad to see how Ananias and Sapphira used the Lord's work to make others think how wonderful they were. This should be a stern and sobering reminder of how serious it is to God that we serve and give with proper motives. The church of Jesus Christ is no place for personal exaltation or fulfillment of human ambition. It is the Lord's church! It is the Lord's work, and it is for His glory and honor!

QUESTIONS

1. What came upon all the church when Ananias and Sapphira died? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What were the Sadducees filled with as a result of God's working? \_\_\_\_\_

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SATURDAY, MAY 20

▣ Acts 7:44-60 (Mark if read)

*Acts 7:60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.*

Stephen was a great example for all of us to follow. Although he was not a Pastor, he faithfully and courageously served the Lord in his local church as well as before his community. Although he fell victim to the hatred and anger of the insecure, self-righteous, religious crowd, he never lost his Christian character. The presence of the Holy Spirit was so evident in his life even in the bitterest moment. We have no excuse to lose the virtues of mercy and forgiveness. If Stephen could, so can we!

QUESTIONS

11. Who was Stephen full of? \_\_\_\_\_
12. At whose feet did the murderers lay their garments? \_\_\_\_\_

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THURSDAY, MAY 19

▣ Acts 7:22-43 (Mark if read)

*Ac 7:35 This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush.*

Israel always struggled with God's authority. We all do. We especially don't like the human representation of God's authority. We tend to see the frailties of rulers rather than the One from Whom they are commissioned to command us.

Let's humble ourselves and learn to submit. Everyone cannot be in charge. We must learn to follow rules. We must obey with a good attitude those whom God has placed over us.

QUESTIONS

- 9. How old was Moses when He decided to give his life to free the Hebrew slaves? \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. How many years later did Moses meet God in the burning bush? \_\_\_\_\_

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TUESDAY, MAY 16

▣ Acts 5:22-42 (Mark if read)

*Ac 5:42 And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.*

The disciples mentioned in this passage were serious about God. Serving Jesus was no part-time job. They were intense. They were ALL IN! How intense are you? Are you a part-time Christian?

Decide today that your relationship with God is not going to be something you do casually. Love God supremely. Serve God fervently! Give Jesus your life with all the passion and excitement that you can EVERY DAY!

QUESTIONS

- 3. Who should we obey rather than men? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. When Peter preached, how were those who heard him affected? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Who was the important Pharisee that spoke up? \_\_\_\_\_

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▣ Acts 6 (Mark if read)

**Ac 6:3** *Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.*

Note the description of the helpers that the Apostles needed to keep the ministry going smoothly—known to be honest, full of the Holy Ghost, and full of wisdom. These servant-leaders needed to have a good reputation among the church. They had established themselves as godly men with consistent faithful behavior.

Who you are is more important than what you do, because if you are who you ought to be, you'll do what you ought to do.

QUESTIONS

6. How many men did the Apostles seek out to help care for the business of caring for the widows? \_\_\_\_\_
7. What did Stephen's face look like? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Ac 7:9** *And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him,*

In Stephen's message, he reminds the Sadducees how Joseph's brethren had mistreated him. It was a perfect illustration of what was happening even now as they were condemning Stephen for their own selfish reasons. The blessing for Stephen was the truth that was stated about Joseph—God was with him.

It doesn't matter who is against you. If God is for you, who can be against you? No enemy or obstacle is bigger or more mighty than God. Joseph stayed faithful to the end as did Stephen. Their lives are a testimony to us even today. We can endure any trial if God is with us!

QUESTIONS

8. What 3 groups were addressed at the beginning of Stephen's sermon? \_\_\_\_\_

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