

# Agape Life

## Gospel Project Bible Study

May 1, 2022

Acts 6-7

# Trusting Christ in Life and Death

Volume 10 - Unit 29 – Session 2  
Trusting in Christ in Life and Death

# Housekeeping

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

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Scott Schroeder      Tuesday      May 3

Tammie Leuschner      Thursday      May 5

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# A Fat Lot of Background

**Acts 4:1-22 – Peter and John are arrested and told not to preach.**

**Acts 4:20 – “We can't help but talk about what we've seen and heard.”**

**Acts 4:23-31 – James and John give their report and then a prayer meeting begins.**

# A Fat Lot of Background

**Acts 4:29-30 – “O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”**

**Acts 4:31 – After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.**

# A Fat Lot of Background

Acts 4:32-5:11 – Generosity, Sharing, and Ananias and Sapphira

Acts 5:12-42 – The Apostles are arrested. 😞 They are released by an angel. 😇 They are arrested again. 😬 Peter said they would obey God rather than man. 😊 The Sanhedrin decided that they needed killin'. 😡 Gamaliel convinced the Pharisees it was a bad idea. 😍 They flogged them and told them not to preach. 😡

# A Fat Lot of Background

**Acts 5:41 – The apostles left the Sanhedrin rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus.**



**Acts 5:42 – And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message:**



**“Jesus is the Messiah.”**

# A Fat Lot of Background

**Acts 6:1-7 – Seven Deacons are selected to handle the distribution of food to make sure the Grecian Jews and the Hebraic Jews were treated equally. These were the first Deacons. (διάκονος – diakonos)**

**Stephen was one of the seven.  
He was described as “a man of faith  
and full of the Holy Spirit.”  
Acts 6:5**

# Session in a Sentence

**The Holy Spirit empowers and enables God's people to preach Jesus boldly even in the face of death.**

# What's the Point?

**Point 1: God's people speak boldly,  
empowered by the Spirit's presence.  
Acts 6:8-15**

**Point 2: God's people proclaim God's Word,  
empowered by the Spirit's  
understanding. Acts 7:44-53**

**Point 3: God's people face persecution,  
empowered by the Spirit's filling.  
Acts 7:54-60**

# Point 1:

**God's people  
speak boldly,  
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Spirit's presence.**

**Acts 6:8-15**

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**Your Arms Too Short to  
Box with God**

**James Weldon Johnson**

**Point 1: God's people speak boldly,  
empowered by the Spirit's presence.  
Acts 6:8-10**

## **Just a Wee Bit More Background**

### **Acts 7:2-53**

**Stephen delivered a sermon which  
covered the Hebrew history  
from Abraham to Solomon  
and informed them of  
the error of their thinking.**

**In Point 2 we will see his closing points.**

# Point 2:

**God's people proclaim  
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Acts 7:44-53**

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**The power  
of the spoken word is seen  
in the power and logic  
of the Spirit.**

**Point 2: God's people proclaim God's Word,  
empowered by the Spirit's  
understanding. Acts 7:44-53**

**Illumination of Scripture: Because of  
the vast difference between Gods  
\_\_\_\_\_ and ours and because of  
humanity's \_\_\_\_\_ state, human  
beings are incapable, on our own, of  
fully grasping spiritual truth without  
being aided by the \_\_\_\_\_  
through the process of illumination.**

**Point 2: God's people proclaim God's Word,  
empowered by the Spirit's  
understanding. Acts 7:44-53**

**Illumination of Scripture: Because of  
the vast difference between Gods  
wisdom and ours and because of  
humanity's sinful state, human  
beings are incapable, on our own, of  
fully grasping spiritual truth without  
being aided by the Holy Spirit  
through the process of illumination.**

# Point 3:

**God's people face  
persecution,  
empowered by the  
Spirit's filling.**

**Acts 7:54-60**

**Point 3: God's people face persecution,  
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**Acts 7:54-60**

**<sup>10</sup>Blessed are those who are persecuted for  
righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom  
of heaven.**

**<sup>11</sup>Blessed are you when they revile and  
persecute you, and speak all kinds of evil  
against you falsely for My sake.**

**<sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is  
your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted  
the prophets who were before you.**

**Matthew 5:10-12**

**Point 3: God's people face persecution,  
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Acts 7:54-60**

**Acts 5:41 – The apostles left the  
Sanhedrin rejoicing that God had  
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**“But God”**

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**Acts 7:54-60**

**“But God”**

**Acts 7:55**

**“But Stephen” . . .**

**. . . “Being full of the Holy Spirit”**

**Point 3: God's people face persecution,  
empowered by the Spirit's filling.**

**Acts 7:54-60**

**“But God”**

**Acts 7:55**

**“But Stephen” . . .**

**. . . “Being full of the Holy Spirit”**

**“But God in Stephen”**

**Point 3: God's people face persecution,  
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Acts 7:54-60**

**πλήθω – pléthō**

**full, abounding in, complete,  
completely occupied with;  
filled to the maximum,  
implies "filled to one's capacity."**

**Point 3: God's people face persecution,  
empowered by the Spirit's filling.  
Acts 7:54-60**

**How can we be filled  
to capacity  
with the Holy Spirit?**

**Point 3: God's people face persecution,  
empowered by the Spirit's filling.**

**Acts 7:54-60**

**15 Be careful then how you walk, not as  
unwise but as wise,**

**16 making the best use of the time, because  
the days are evil.**

**17 Therefore do not be foolish, but  
understand what the will of the Lord is.**

**18 And do not get drunk with wine, for that  
is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.**

**Ephesians 5:15-18**

# How Should We Then Live?

**We must**  
**- in the fullness, power,**  
**and direction of**  
**the Holy Spirit -**  
**proclaim boldly**  
**the truth of the Gospel,**  
**no matter the cost or**  
**consequences.**

# Agape Life

Gospel Project Bible Study

Next Week

May 8, 2022

**Romans 1-11**

**Amazing Grace,**

**How Sweet the Sound!**

Volume 10 - Unit 29 – Session 2

Trusting in the Gospel of Jesus