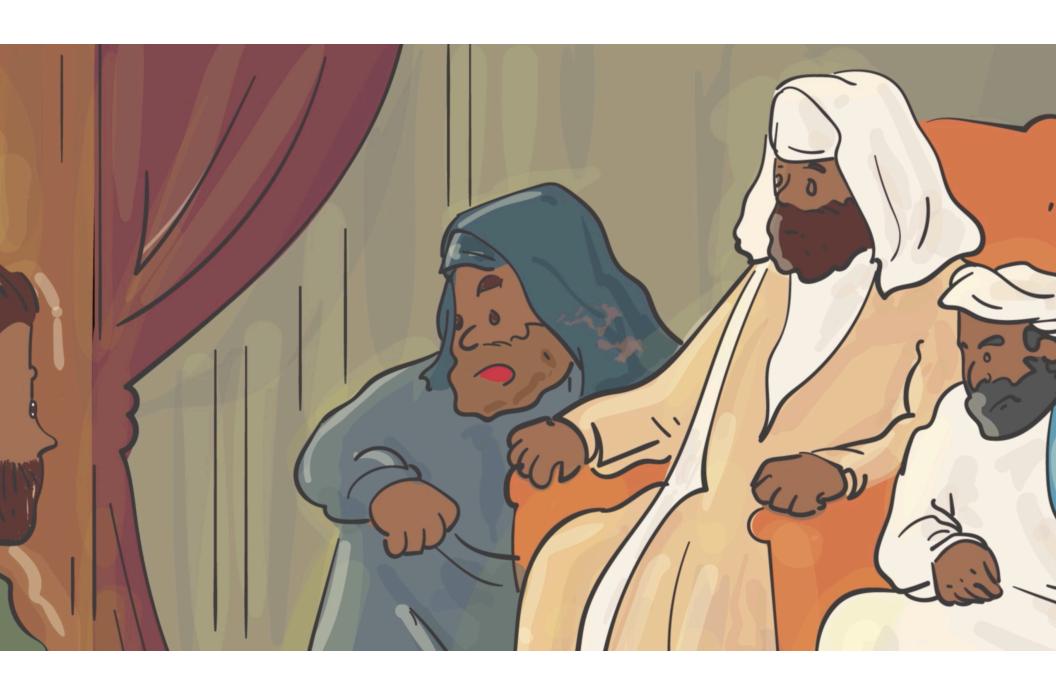
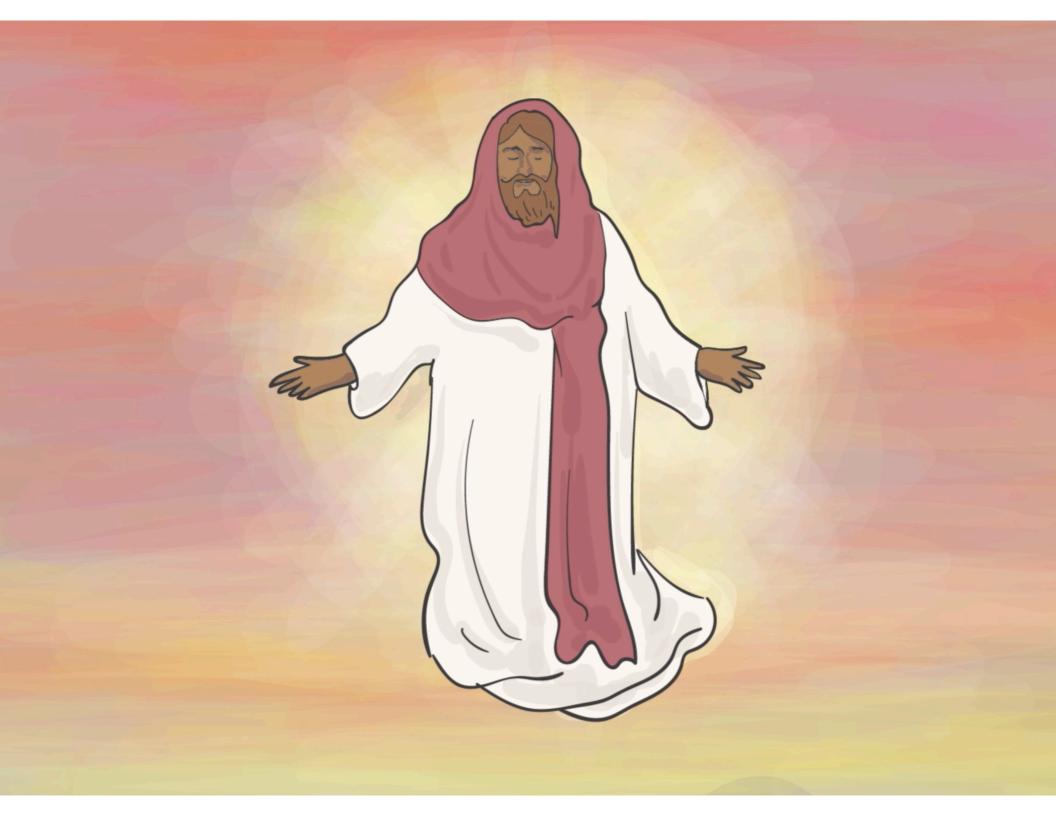


Stephen loved Jesus. One day, people told lies about Stephen. They did not like Stephen, and they wanted him to get in trouble.



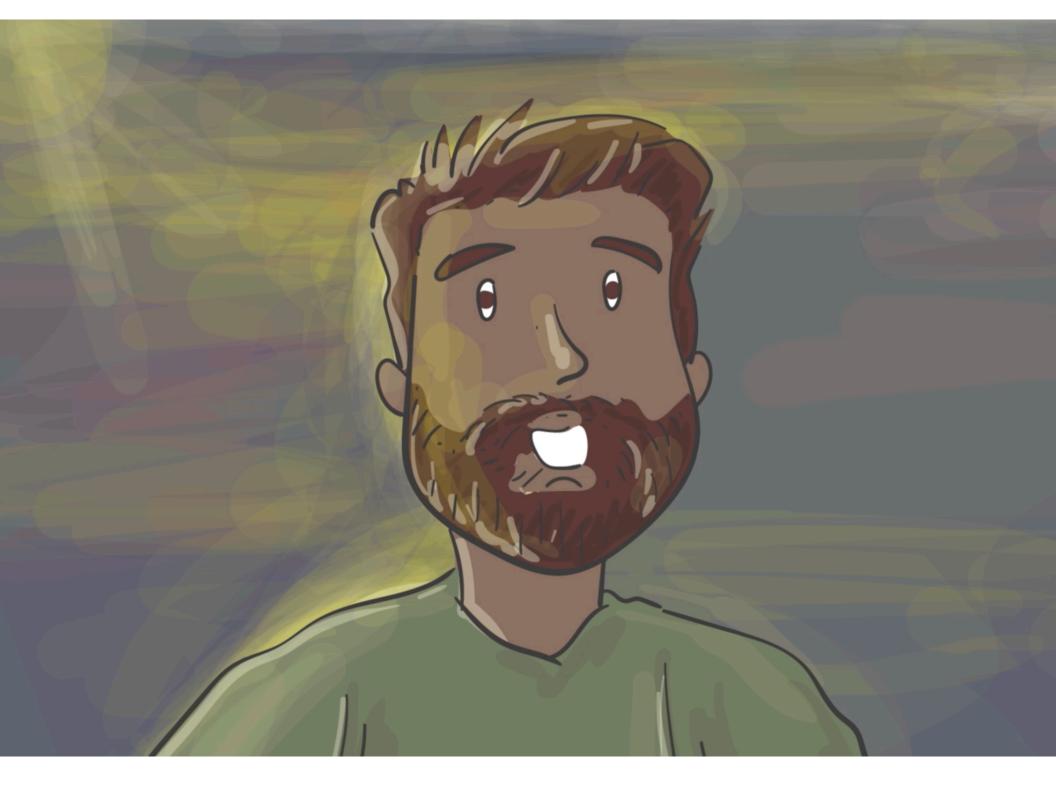
The religious leaders asked Stephen if the peoples' words were true. Stephen told the leaders about Jesus. He said that Jesus is the Messiah, and the religious leaders were wrong to kill Jesus on the cross.



The religious leaders did not like what Stephen was saying. Stephen looked up and said, "I see Jesus standing next to God."



Suddenly, the people yelled, covered their ears, and ran toward Stephen. They made Stephen leave the city, and then they threw rocks at him.



Stephen said, "Jesus, forgive them!" Then he died.



the GOSPELPROJECT.

## **PRESCHOOL**

Christ Connection: People hurt Stephen because he followed Jesus. When people are mean to us because we love Jesus, we can be brave because people hurt Jesus too. Jesus died and came back to life, and one day we will live with Him forever.

## 2-3 AND 4-5 Year Old Questions

- 1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
- 2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
- 3. What did Stephen tell the leaders who asked if he was telling the truth?

## **ELEMENTARY**

Christ Connection: Jesus told His followers that they would be persecuted—hated, hurt, or even killed—for loving Him. Jesus also said that those who suffer for Him would be blessed. We can face suffering in this life because Jesus suffered first. He died and then rose again, and He is waiting for us in heaven.

## Elementary 4 Questions

- 1. What did you like about todays story?
- 2. What did you find confusing?
- 3. What did you learn about people?
- 4. What did you learn about God?