

Bible Hero Name Lesson Series

Stephen

What Samson Did:

Stephen is a very popular bible hero because he always stood by God's word, even though he faced persecution and death. He is considered the very first Christian martyr and served as one of the first seven deacons. He devoted himself to prayer and faith. Stephen showed good character and God gave him immense power and gifts. Some people disliked Stephen because they were afraid of him and his faith. They did not understand the power of God and believed that Stephen should be put to death. He was arrested and even in the face of pressure, Stephen stood by the word of God and never wavered. He made a speech about God and the people became angry. They dragged him from the city, and stoned him to death. Even as he was dying he asked for God to receive his spirit.

Find it in the Bible:

There are many places where you can find stories about Stephen in the bible. The most popular story is found in Acts 7. This talks about Stephen as he faced death from those who did not believe in his faith in God.

Memory Verse:

Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. Acts 7:59-60

Game Idea:

Pass the Bible

The Bible is full of God's words and wisdom. Play a game similar to "Hot Potato" by passing the bible as the music plays, except the child that ends up with the Bible is not out, instead, he or she will either read a passage from the bible (you can mark pages beforehand), or will tell something they have learned by hearing the story of Stephen.

Snack Suggestion:

Serve the children donuts. The "O" represents "obeying" God's word. You can even make donuts in the classroom by punching small holes in canned biscuits and frying. The children can sprinkle the tops with sugar and cinnamon.

Stephen Craft:

Faith Cross

Cut out a cross from yellow craft foam. Write the memory verse in the center. Have the children decorate the cross using glitter glue and rhinestones. Glue a magnet on the back so they can hang it up when they get home.

Suggested Prayer:

Dear Lord, You gave Stephen great power and strength. He believed in your words even as he was in trouble. Please give me that strength. Amen.