

Second Baptist Church "Hour of Power" Bible Study

Teacher: Dr. Kevin A. Kelly

Series: "Experience A Filling"

Our lives can be filled with the capacity of God's love, His joy, His peace, His hope and His spirit. This is not only a possibility, it can be a reality!

When the "definite capacity of who we are" is filled with the "infinite capacity of all that He is": A filled life will exemplify and testify just how big God is!!

In this evening's lesson, I'd like to look at a man whose life was perfused and used by God greatly in the birthing movement of the New Testament Church age! His name is Stephen, In Acts 6 and 7.

God used Him in the manner in which He did because He was full of something that qualified Him to be used and quantified Him in the use!

Stephen, who was bold, daring, and courageous acted the way he did, in the New Testament church age time of test, because:

Acts 6:5 and Acts 6:8 says "Stephen was full of faith"

Tonight's lesson is about being: "Experiencing the fullness of faith"

If you're gonna fulfill your assignment and face life's adversity, you gonna need to be filled with the fullness of faith!

(You're gonna need an abundance of Confident trust in who you are filled by and what you are filled for)

That's what Stephen had:

-He came on the scene after the Apostolic movement that caused the church to grow to large numbers which further caused murmuring that begin to take place because some of the Greeks thought the Hebrew widows were being cared for better than the Greeks

Stephen was one of the seven chosen to assist and address the issue at hand -He was a leader and servant in the church

Page 2 of 2 -He was one of the first deacon's In Jerusalem

*He was called out because of what He was equipped with!!!

Verse 5 and 8 of chapter 6 says "He was full of faith", when they called him.

-They took notice that evidently he wasn't a novice!

Because of the spiritual and political tension that existed during that time, they called a man to function that was already full of faith.

Stephen was already Courageous and He was already had a Conviction about the Cause of Christ that's why when He was faced with Opposition and Affliction, what He was filled with came to the forefront!

Point: What a person is full of will always come to the forefront when it's forced. (That just means when circumstances require it)

The fullness of Stephen's faith, came to the forefront when he was faced with foes and fury!

Verse 8 suggest that Stephen went about doing the work He was called to do! God proved it through the results He gave because of the reality He had! (Results always follow a life of fullness). Verse 8 says that wonders and miracles were a by-product of the fullness of God in Him!

Verse 9 reveals: Results of God's fullness in your life always causes rebels and rivals to react!!!

In the text: verse 9 suggests that after the disciples multiplied even more, it made certain folk even madder.

Verse 9 says The Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and those from Cilicia and Asia started disputing with Stephen. And when they couldn't resist the wisdom and Spirit in him, they started bringing false accusations up against him.

Because Stephen was full of faith He remained Confident in His trust!

Full faith, which is the measure of confidence needed in trying encounters, will evidence itself!

1. Full Confidence is evident in Consistent Countenance & Character

When you're full of faith and trusting God, you don't allow what you are encountering change your countenance or your character!

You see: When you have the faith you need, it don't change your face or your fortitude!

2. Full Confidence is evident in Commitment to Conviction & Outcome

That just means Opposition and affliction don't change your conviction!

Stephen maintained his commitment to the cause of Christ even till death!