Story: **Stephen**
Background Scripture : **Acts 7**
YOU WILL NEED: Signs that say: *Godly Man and Loved Jesus.*

Stephen

Choose 2 volunteers to help you tell a story. Give one the sign that says *Saul* and the other the sign that says *Stephen*.

SAY: Stephen was a godly man (put *Godly Man* sign around his neck) who loved Jesus (put *Loved Jesus* sign on him) and told others about Him. But since the religious leaders had killed Jesus, they didn't want people preaching about Him. So in anger they drove Stephen out of the city and began to throw big stones at him.

SAY: Finally Stephen fell to his knees. (*Have volunteer act it out and say the following…*) and said, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Then he died.

SAY: The people who killed Stephen laid their garments at Saul's feet, which meant he was in charge. Saul had killed Stephen for preaching the truth about Jesus but later on Saul gives his life to Jesus and begins to preach about Him and serve Him also. Give our volunteers a hand. (*Take the signs back.*)

Ask the students: **Why do you think Stephen was willing to die for Jesus?** (Because he had found something so awesome in Jesus that he wasn't willing to let go of it, even if it cost him his life.)

Ask the students: **Eventually Saul changed his name—Do you know what he changed it to?** (Paul. That's right. This is the apostle Paul who helped spread the Gospel far and wide and who wrote thirteen of the books in our New Testaments. Jesus changed his life!)