



# ELDERS DISCIPLESHIP NOTES VISION

## Elders Discipleship Group 6

**Purpose of the Elders Discipleship Group:** To Train and Equip Discipleship Group leaders to lead more effectively.

**Key Theme:** Vision

**Key Truth:** Sight empowers Christ like living.

**Read:** Having vision in Christ, empowers and gives us the ability to live a Christ like existence, while we are here on earth. The bible says that the manifold wisdom of God is to be made known through the church now, because we have the full blown reality of Christ in us the hope of glory.

Stephen is able and fully capable to model the love of the Father because of what he can see. What he can see is determined by what he is full of.

*Acts 7:54-60 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the quick, and they began gnashing their teeth at him. But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice, and covered their ears and rushed at him with one impulse. When they had driven him out of the city, they began stoning him; and the witnesses laid aside their robes at the feet of a young man named Saul. They went on stoning Stephen as he called on the Lord and said, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then falling on his knees, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" Having said this, he fell asleep.*

Stephen is able to model what Christ modelled when He was crucified because he was full of the same substance. Jesus was full of the Holy Spirit and so was Stephen. Being full of the Holy Spirit enables us to walk in the manner in which Christ walked - love. This is a constant and continuous reality.

Stephen sees the radiated glory of God, Jesus Christ Himself, and it's this vision in the heart that empowers him to say "Lord, do not hold this sin against them!" The bible says love does not act unbecomingly. Stephen is the demonstration of this love and we can be too.

We are called and chosen to manifest, through us, the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Christ in every place. This is all part of our being in Christ. This is all Stephen is doing here, manifesting the sweet aroma of Christ, but as you can see, not everyone is a fan of this fragrance. When we speak what we see and know, releasing the aroma and fragrance of Christ, those who are living from the flesh, manifest in a variety of ways from extreme aggression, justification, accusation, deflecting, hiding, ignoring, denying, excusing, retreating, from the Word that is being released through vision or sight.

The people who killed Stephen were Israelites. The people who killed Jesus were Israelites. The people who walked away from Jesus were His disciples. Let us not think more highly of ourselves and think there is no way this would be us, but let us lean in to God and ask Him to show us more and more who we are in Him, so we never get found in a posture opposite to Christ.

### Questions:

1. What impacts you the most from this passage?
2. Why is it essential we too are full of the Holy Spirit?
3. How do we respond when the knowledge of God is released and it is outside of our current thinking?



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What relationship do fear and flesh have with one another?

**Action:** What do you sense God asking you to put into action after going through this resource?