

# Don't Be Duped!

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

1. \_\_\_\_\_ vv. 8-12a

2. \_\_\_\_\_ vv. 12b-14



# Grow Group Discussion Questions

A grow group is 8-16 people who get together weekly to study God's word and the previous Sunday's message. There is a time of discussion, support, encouragement, and learning how the message applies to daily life. **PCC uses the ESV (English Standard Version).**

## HOW DO I JOIN A GROUP?

To learn more or join a group, visit [pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/](http://pacificcoastchurch.org/gg/) or sign up at the patio Info Kiosk.

### Point #1

- Read Acts 6:8-12a. Explain why the religious leaders opposed Stephen. How did they stir up the people?
- Why was it easy for them to do? How was this the opposite of Point #1? How is this happening today?
- In what way do you see how applying Point #1 in relationships can prevent division? How does this adjust you?

### Point #2

- Read Acts 6:12b-14. What proof did the Synagogue of Freedmen provide against Stephen? How was this hearsay?
- Why did they use "false witnesses"? In what way does Point #2 cut through all the accusations and guilt?
- Why is Point #2 important when it comes to preventing church division? How does this challenge you?

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## Daily Devotions

These are provided for mid-week personal spiritual growth. Prayerfully writing out your answers will help you experience real life transformation as you dig deeper into the spiritual truths of God's word and today's message.

A downloadable PDF of this document is also available each week at [pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons](http://pacificcoastchurch.org/sermons).

### **MONDAY // Read Acts 6:8-10, 4:13, Luke 21:15**

- In what way was the Holy Spirit operating in the early church? How did this relate specifically to Stephen?
- Why is this important to know when it comes to divisive people? Who are they ultimately fighting against?
- How did this make the Synagogue of the Freedmen more desperate? Why is this important to recognize?

### **TUESDAY // Read Acts 6:8-12a, Leviticus 24:10, Proverbs 18:8, 26:20**

- How did the religious leaders spread lies about Stephen? How did that carry serious consequences?
- Why is "secretly" important to understand? What does this highlight about how division spreads?
- How will heeding the instruction in Proverbs prevent this from happening? How does this challenge you?

### **WEDNESDAY // Read Acts 6:12a, 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, 2 Corinthians 12:20**

- How did Paul's first relational instruction to the Corinthian church differ from the second letter's realization?
- In what way was this a practical result of the same type of behavior between the religious leaders and Stephen?
- How is not assuming the best about someone the opposite of love? How do you need to avoid this trap?

### **THURSDAY // Read Acts 6:12b-14, Matthew 5:7, 14:23, John 2:18-21**

- What, specifically, did the religious leaders accuse Stephen of doing? How were they spinning the truth?
- In what way did they provide evidence of this taking place? What does this highlight about hearsay?
- Why is this important in not being dupped into false accusations? What is the solution for protection?

### **FRIDAY // Read Acts 6:12b-14, Deuteronomy 17:6, James 2:14-17**

- Why did the religious leaders set up "false witnesses" against Stephen? How was this a legal move?
- In what way was Stephen being accused without proof? If you just judged actions, what do you see?
- Why is this important to do when it comes to division, rumors, gossip, labeling, etc.? Be specific.

### **SATURDAY // Read Acts 6:8-14**

- As you read the entire encounter between Stephen and the synagogue of Freedmen, what do you see?
- How would assuming the best and measuring actions have prevented the division from growing?
- In what way is God using this story to highlight areas you can improve or be more careful? Be specific.

**MEDITATION VERSE:** *<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works?*

**James 2:14**