

Power to face opposition – whatever happens (Acts 6:8-8:3; 12)

Making decisions without knowing the outcome

“Risk is Right”

Power to face opposition

- **Whatever happens**, don't avoid the risk of speaking up for Jesus
- Stephen died, Peter escaped – both were faithful to Jesus

Stephen (Acts 6:8-8:3)

Peter (Acts 12:1-24)

What shall we do with this?

We don't know everything that will happen to us – neither did Stephen and Peter.

But we are called to lose our life for the gospel so that we will save it (Mark 8:35)

Our confidence is in Romans 8:35-39!

Digging Deeper

Think of a time when you have made a decision about something without fully knowing the outcome. What happened?

Would you say you are a risk-taker or risk-averse?

Can you think of good and bad ways to take risks?

What sorts of things might you take a risk for God with?

Do you have a Bible life-verse that sums up your purpose for living?

What key things strike you about Stephen that you would love to emulate?

How was Stephen's death part of God's plan for the Gospel? What does this show us about the way God sometimes works?

How did Peter and the church trust God despite his imprisonment?

Is it important to pray for persecuted Christians across the world? If you do this, perhaps share how with your group. If you don't, how might you get started?

How will these two stories inspire you to step out more for Jesus – knowing that whatever happens is all under His Sovereign control?