

Uncovered Ears

Open with Prayer Requests

Discussion Questions:

Read Acts 6:8–10

- How would you describe Stephen's role in the church, and why is it significant that God used him in powerful ways even as a "food distributor"?
- What does this teach us about how God values different kinds of service in the body of Christ?

Read Acts 6:11–15

- Why do people often discredit or oppose their advocates rather than receive correction?
- Can you think of a time when you resisted correction that was actually for your good? What helped you eventually accept it?

Read Acts 7:35–41

- Stephen reminded the people of Israel's history of rejecting God's prophets and advocates. Why do you think this pattern repeats throughout history?
- In what ways do we see similar resistance to God's truth today?

Read Acts 7:51–53

- What does Stephen mean by calling them "stiff-necked" and "uncircumcised in heart and ears"?
- What might "circumcised ears" look like for us in practical, everyday life?

Read Matthew 13:13–15

- According to Jesus, what keeps people from truly hearing and understanding God's Word?
- How can we guard ourselves from having calloused hearts or closed ears?

Personal Reflection

- Who has been an "advocate" in your life—someone who told you a difficult truth in love?
- How might God be calling you to receive correction with humility this week?
- How might God be calling you to lovingly *be* an advocate for someone else?

Closing Prayer