

**LIFE IN THE WORD**

**SERIES:**

**LIVING WITH A STIFF NECK**

**(RESISTING THE HOLY  
SPIRIT)**

**LESSON SEVEN:  
ARE YOU RESISTING  
THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

**FOUNDATION  
SCRIPTURE  
ACTS 7:51**

**ACTS 7:51, YOU STIFF-NECKED PEOPLE,  
UNCIRCUMCISED IN HEART AND EARS, YOU ALWAYS  
RESIST THE HOLY SPIRIT. AS YOUR FATHERS DID, SO  
DO YOU.**



**YOU WHOSE HEARTS ARE HARD AND WHOSE EARS  
ARE SHUT TO ME; YOU ARE EVER WORKING AGAINST  
THE HOLY SPIRIT; AS YOUR FATHERS DID, SO DO YOU.  
(THE BIBLE IN BASIC ENGLISH)**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN BE RESISTED , GRIEVED AND  
QUENCHED.**

**EPHESIANS 4:30, AND DO NOT GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT  
OF GOD, BY WHOM YOU WERE SEALED FOR THE DAY OF  
REDEMPTION.**

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:19, DO NOT  
QUENCH THE SPIRIT.**

**“RESIST” MEANS TO OPPOSE, OR STRIVE  
AGAINST.**

# **FIVE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST STEPHEN AND WHY HE WAS STONED:**



**STEPHEN SPOKE DISRESPECTFUL  
WORDS AGAINST:**

**1. MOSES**

**2. GOD**

**3. THE HOLY PLACE**

**4. THE LAW.**

**5. RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS AND  
TRADITIONS**

**JOHN 6:44, FOR NO ONE CAN COME TO  
ME UNLESS THE FATHER WHO SENT ME  
DRAWS THEM TO ME, AND AT THE LAST  
DAY, I WILL RAISE THEM UP.**

**TWO WAYS STEPHEN'S  
MESSAGE MINISTERS TO US:**

## **1. ENCOURAGEMENT**

**THE LORD PASSED BEFORE HIM AND PROCLAIMED,  
“THE LORD, THE LORD, A GOD MERCIFUL AND  
GRACIOUS, SLOW TO ANGER, AND ABOUNDING IN  
STEADFAST LOVE AND FAITHFULNESS, KEEPING  
STEADFAST LOVE FOR THOUSANDS, FORGIVING  
INIQUITY AND TRANSGRESSION AND SIN, BUT WHO  
WILL BY NO MEANS CLEAR THE GUILTY, VISITING  
THE INIQUITY OF THE FATHERS ON THE CHILDREN  
AND THE CHILDREN’S CHILDREN, TO THE THIRD AND  
THE FOURTH GENERATION.”**

**EXODUS 34:6-7**

**PSALM 86:15, BUT YOU, O LORD, ARE A  
COMPASSIONATE AND GRACIOUS GOD, SLOW TO  
ANGER, ABOUNDING IN LOVING DEVOTION AND  
FAITHFULNESS.**



## **2. WARNING**

**GOD TURNED AND GAVE THEM OVER TO WORSHIP  
THE HOST OF HEAVEN.**

**ACTS 7:42**



**THEREFORE GOD GAVE THEM OVER IN THE SINFUL  
DESIRES OF THEIR HEARTS TO SEXUAL IMPURITY  
FOR THE DEGRADING OF THEIR BODIES WITH ONE  
ANOTHER. THEY EXCHANGED THE TRUTH ABOUT  
GOD FOR A LIE AND WORSHIPED AND SERVED  
CREATED THINGS RATHER THAN THE CREATOR—  
WHO IS FOREVER PRAISED. AMEN.”**

**ROMANS 1:24-25**

**WE PRIMARILY RESIST THE HOLY SPIRIT BY  
DISOBEYING THE SCRIPTURES.**

**ZECHARIAH 7:12, THEY MADE THEIR HEARTS LIKE  
FLINT SO THAT THEY COULD NOT HEAR THE LAW  
AND THE WORDS WHICH THE LORD OF HOSTS HAD  
SENT BY HIS SPIRIT THROUGH THE FORMER  
PROPHETS; THEREFORE, GREAT WRATH CAME FROM  
THE LORD OF HOSTS.**

**HOW CAN WE OBEY THE BIBLE IF WE DON'T  
KNOW WHAT IS IN IT?**

**FIVE WAYS TO OVERCOME RESISTING  
THE HOLY SPIRIT:**



**1. SEEK GOD'S GUIDANCE**  
**JOHN 16:13**



## **2. OBEY HIS COMMANDS**

# **3. CONFESS AND REPENT**

**"CONCEALMENT MAKES THE SOUL A  
SWAMP. CONFESSION IS HOW YOU DRAIN  
IT."**

**4. CULTIVATE THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.**

## **5. AVOID SIN**

**“THE HOLY SPIRIT IS YOUR SPIRITUAL  
GPS. HE WILL TELL YOU WHERE YOU ARE  
AND WHERE YOU ARE GOING.”**



## **FOLLOW UP CHAT QUESTIONS:**

- 1. NAME THREE WAYS WE CAN HINDER THE HOLY SPIRIT? EXPLAIN.**
- 2. WHY WAS STEPHEN STONED? EXPLAIN.**
- 3. WHAT CAN WE CONCLUDE TODAY REGARDING STEPHEN'S MESSAGE?**
- 4. WHAT HAPPENS IF WE CONTINUE TO RESIST THE HOLY SPIRIT'S PROMPTINGS?**
- 5. LIST THE FIVE WAYS WE CAN OVERCOME RESISTING THE HOLY SPIRIT. EXPLAIN.**
- 6. HOW CAN WE AVOID OUR SOUL FROM BECOMING A SWAMP?**
- 7. "THE HOLY SPIRIT IS YOUR GPS. HOW SO?"**