

# Ever faithful

## Aim

Through the story of Stephen we see that ordinary people can do ordinary things for Jesus and help others in our daily lives.

Jesus can help us in whatever we do for him

## Bible Passage

Acts 6 and 7

## Bible Time

This week we are going to start with a Bible story. Our story is about a man called Stephen and can be found in Acts 6 and 7. Here is a copy of the story for you to read together or you can listen to Deborah read the story on the TMC Facebook page or on the attached clip.

*The disciples found they had too much work to do. As well as teaching and preaching and praying, they had money and food to share out among their needy people. Now things were so busy that people were sometimes forgotten. They needed help! They looked around to find suitable people who loved Jesus. They noticed Stephen. Stephen and six other men were chosen as helpers. Stephen didn't mind doing ordinary things like shopping and visiting. He was doing them for Jesus, and Jesus helped him to do them really well. Soon Stephen found that Jesus was helping him to do more things. He was doing amazing miracles, and he was able to speak to other people with great wisdom. He couldn't do that on his own! Some of the people in charge of the Temple didn't like Stephen talking about Jesus. They grabbed Stephen and stood him in front of the council. Some agreed to tell lies about Stephen. But Stephen bravely stood in front of them, and Jesus helped him to tell them that they were wrong. Jesus kept helping Stephen. Stephen looked up to heaven and he saw Jesus there. The men were furious when he said this, but even when the men dragged him outside, Jesus helped Stephen to forgive them.*

Stephen was an ordinary person who was willing to do ordinary things for Jesus. Jesus was able to help him to do those things well and to make them amazing

- What ordinary things did Stephen do?
- How was Stephen brave?
- What did God help Stephen to do for his enemies?
- What can you do to help this week? Write down a few ideas to use with your craft.

God can make ordinary people very special.

## Game Time

Stephen did God's work by doing ordinary things for people. We can do ordinary things to help each other in our daily lives too. Play a game all about helping and decide what you can do for others. Here are a few scenarios, why not act them out and see how you can help then make up a few of your own!

- Lots of toys are on the floor
- The dinner is nearly ready
- Mum has dropped something
- My brother/sister is crying

## Craft Time

### Helping hands wreath

You will need; coloured paper, scissors and glue.

1. Draw some small pictures of how you can help with something this week and cut.
2. Draw around your hands on different coloured paper and cut around them.
3. Stick your hands together so they are just touching each other and form a circle.
4. Add some wool and hang up!

This craft can also be found on the TMC Facebook page.



## Worship Time

Let's thank God for his power in us to help others. Here are a few songs to sing or go to the TMC Facebook page to find some others.

Love your neighbour (You're a Star CD - Track 17)

Every move I make—<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPvnZILn6EY>

## Prayer Time

Use the hands wreath in your prayers today. Look at the pictures you have drawn and the ways you can help and use these in your prayer. Dear Lord Jesus, help me to ... (pray about your helping pictures here). Help me be brave like Stephen and do things for others. Amen.