

Sermon-Based Discussion Guide

Date 5/21/23 Bryce Taylor

Watch the sermon at manheimbic.org/sermon.



BIBLE PASSAGE - Acts 7:44-60

Acts 7:44 *"Our fathers had the tent of witness in the wilderness, just as he who spoke to Moses directed him to make it, according to the pattern that he had seen. 45 Our fathers in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our fathers. So it was until the days of David, 46 who found favor in the sight of God and asked to find a dwelling place for the God of Jacob. 47 But it was Solomon who built a house for him. 48 Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made by hands, as the prophet says,*

49 *"Heaven is my throne,
and the earth is my footstool.*

What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest?

50 *Did not my hand make all these things?"*

51 *"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. 52 Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, 53 you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."*

Other Passages: 1 Corinthians 6; Luke 22; Psalm 138

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, and take time to fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

1. Share a time with the group when you felt some level of persecution in your life. It could be to do with your beliefs but it does not have to be.
2. How do you think believers should respond when under verbal or physical persecution? How do you see that being Jesus's desire for you?
 - in light of being a temple of the Holy Spirit/Christ follower, my response should be...
3. Bryce talked about different ways we can be "battle ready". Which of those three do you think needs the most work in your life and why?
4. What are some other verses in the Bible that would be encouraging to other believers that may face persecution, what verses would you send someone or share with someone who was in the midst of something hard like persecution?
5. What is one thing that you could do to be more aware and dependent on the Holy Spirit in your life this week?

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS