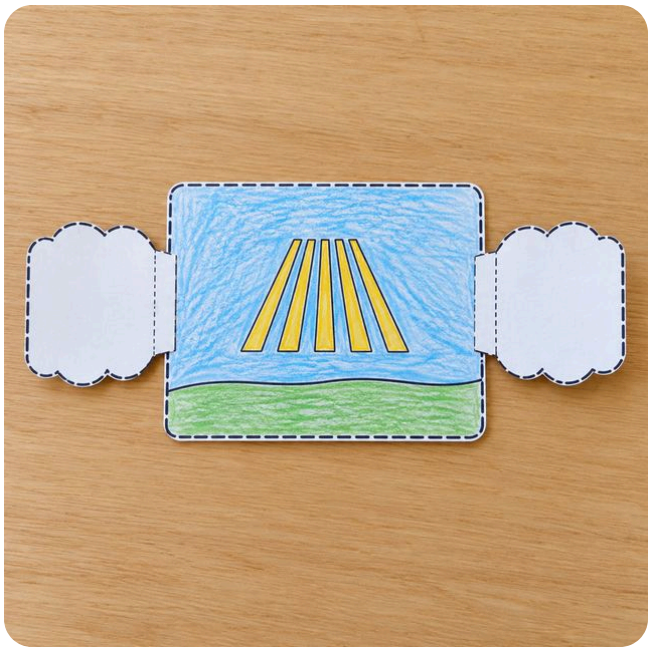
Preschool–Grade 5

Stephen Craft

The heavens opened · Acts 6:8–15; 7:54–60 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium



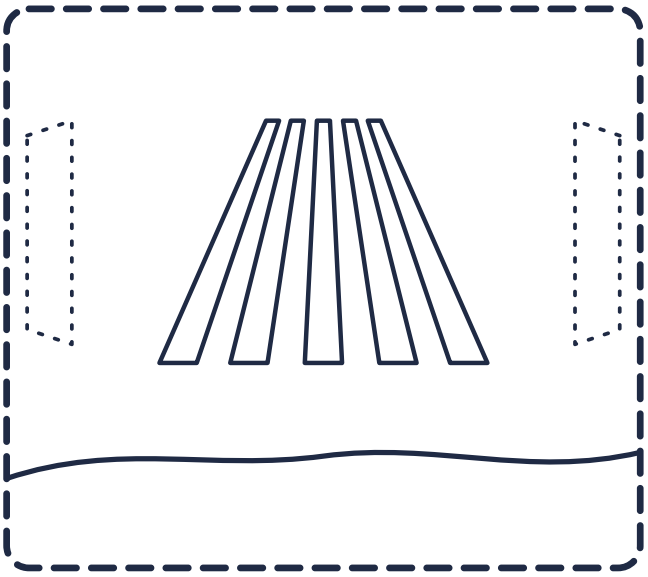
Harder

Both levels are a heaven card with two white cloud doors that open on a yellow light in a blue sky. Full of the Holy Ghost, Stephen "looked up stedfastly into heaven" and said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened" (Acts 7:55–56). Medium (left): the heaven card with the cloud doors open. Harder (right): the same card glued above a ground card with an oval window, where a child drew Stephen looking up.

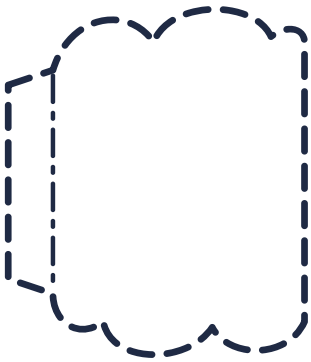
Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

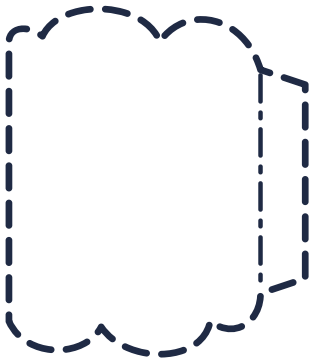
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines



card: color the sky light blue,
the light yellow and the hills green





two cloud doors: leave them white
fold each one on its line (dashes and dots)

Glue each tab on a dotted tab box on the card, so the two clouds meet in the middle.

**And Stephen, full of faith and power,
did great wonders and miracles
among the people.**
Acts 6:8 (KJV)

verse strip: glue it on the back of the card

Color the card the way the label says, and leave the clouds white. Cut out the card, the two cloud doors and the verse strip. Glue the tabs on the card so the clouds open like doors.

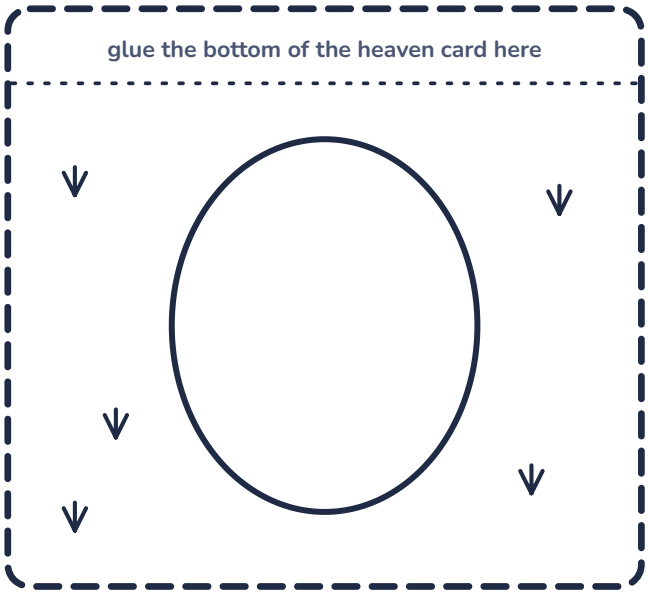
Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Ground card (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines.



ground card: color the grass green. In the oval window, draw Stephen looking up into heaven.

How to add the ground card

1. Make the heaven card from page 2 first: color it, cut it out, and glue on the cloud doors and the verse strip.
2. Color the ground card green all around the oval window. Leave the window white.
3. In the window, draw Stephen standing and looking up into heaven (Acts 7:55). Give him a long robe.
4. Cut out the ground card. Glue the bottom edge of the heaven card on the top band, above the dotted line, so the two cards make one tall card.
5. Tell it: open the clouds. Full of the Holy Ghost, Stephen "looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus" (Acts 7:55).

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/stephen-craft
Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels
You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), light blue, yellow and green crayons or markers, scissors and glue sticks. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child, and crayons for drawing.
Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card, the cloud doors and the verse strip, fold the tabs, glue the doors on the card, and glue the verse strip on the back.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out and glue each child's card together. Kids color the sky light blue, the light yellow and the hills green. Let them open the clouds while you say, "Stephen looked up and saw the heavens opened."
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, cut out, fold and glue the card themselves. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the heaven card like the medium level. Then color the ground card from page 3, draw Stephen looking up in its oval window, and glue the heaven card on top of it. This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color:** color the sky light blue, the light in the middle yellow and the hills green. Leave the two cloud doors white.
2. **Cut:** cut out the card, the two cloud doors and the verse strip on the dashed lines.
3. **Fold:** fold each cloud door on its fold line (dashes and dots), so the small tab bends back.
4. **Glue:** glue each tab on a dotted tab box at the side of the card, so the two clouds meet in the middle and cover the light.
5. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back of the card. Read it together.
6. **Tell it:** open the cloud doors, like Stephen saw: "Behold, I see the heavens opened" (Acts 7:56).

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post

Questions to ask while kids work

- What was Stephen full of? *(Faith and power, Acts 6:8; faith and the Holy Ghost, 6:5)*
- What did Stephen do among the people? *(Great wonders and miracles, 6:8)*
- Why did the men tell lies about Stephen? *(They were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake, 6:10–11)*
- What did the council see when they looked at Stephen? *(His face, as it had been the face of an angel, 6:15)*
- Open the clouds. What did Stephen see when he looked up? *(The glory of God, and Jesus, 7:55)*
- What did Stephen say? *("Behold, I see the heavens opened," 7:56)*
- What did Stephen pray for the men who hurt him? *("Lord, lay not this sin to their charge," 7:60)*

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained: wonders** are amazing things only God can do; **resist** means stand against; **council** means the leaders who judged the people; **stedfastly** means steadily, without looking away; **behold** means look; **lay not this sin to their charge** means "don't hold this sin against them."
- **What the Bible says:** Stephen saw "the heavens opened" and "the glory of God, and Jesus" (Acts 7:55–56). The yellow light is a simple reminder of the glory of God. No one is drawn in the heavens, and never Jesus or God; the craft shows only the opened clouds and the light.
- **No one is drawn on the template.** On the harder level, kids draw Stephen themselves in the oval window, standing and looking up. He wears a long robe.
- **Keep it gentle:** the craft shows the moment Stephen looked up (7:55–56), not how he died. If kids ask, use the short, gentle answer in the Stephen lesson.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free Stephen lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/stephen.

Free to print & copy for church, classroom & home · Please don't resell or re-post