



Then Peter said, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit ...? You have not lied to men but to God” Acts 5:3-4



READ

Begin by reading through the entirety of Acts 5. Commit to reading it through every day this week.



Memory Verse:

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Bible Questions:

1. Re-read Acts 4:32-37. According to this passage, what types of things characterized the church at this time?

2. Contrast the actions of Joseph/ Barnabas in 4:34-37 to those of Ananias and Sapphira

3. What clues does the passage give you that suggest there was a spiritual battle happening behind Ananias and Sapphira’s decision?

4. Why do you think God pronounced such an immediate and severe judgement? What scriptural evidence can you find that supports your answer?

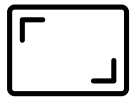
5. One theory about God’s judgement in this passage is that he wanted to protect the purity and integrity of his church during this important period of growth. If we don’t understand the importance of the church, we will never understand or trust God’s judgement. Read the following passages. What do they teach you about the body of Christ? What do they tell you about God’s heart for his Church?

- Matthew 16:18
- Acts 20:28
- 1 Corinthians 12:14-31
- Ephesians 5:22-33



Reflect

- How do you respond to God's Judgement in the story of Ananias and Sapphira?
- How do you think your personal choices might be effecting the church as a whole, either in its unity or in its witness to the world?
- Would you say that you value the church as highly as God does? Why or why not?
- What selfishness or individualism do you need to sacrifice for the sake of the Church?
- How do you respond when someone confronts you about your sin?
- When did you feel most filled with the Spirit?
- When did you feel the least Spirit-filled



Watch Session 5



Group Discussion

Read Acts 5:1-11. God's judgment in this situation may appear severe

Why do you think it was necessary? What was the result?

What do you learn about the character of God from this story ?

What does it mean to fear the Lord?

Why do you think people are so inclined to lie?

In what ways does this type of deceit play out among Christians and in the Church?

Read Proverbs 1:7

How can you develop a healthy fear of God in your life?

Challenge

To get serious about sin in your life, Ask God to search your heart and reveal anything that is displeasing to him.



Prayer