



Opening (5-7 minutes)

- Icebreaker Question: Can you think of a time when maybe you felt tempted to present yourself as “better” than you actually were (e.g., at work, church, or with friends). What motivated that feeling, and how did you handle it?

Discussion (30-40 minutes)

A Beautiful Beginning

- Read aloud together Acts 4:32-35
- What stands out to you about the early church’s unity and generosity?
- How does this picture of the Church compare to our modern experience of church community?

Sinful Pretense

- Read aloud together Acts 5:1-2
- Ananias and Sapphira sold their property but kept back part of the proceeds while pretending to give it all. Why do you think they wanted to appear more generous than they were?
- Have you ever felt tempted to exaggerate your generosity, spirituality, or commitment to gain approval? What drives that temptation?

Spiritual Perception

- Read aloud together Acts 5:3-4
- Peter, led by the Holy Spirit, confronts Ananias about lying to God. How does this show the seriousness of hypocrisy in the Church?

Swift Punishment

- Read aloud together Acts 5:7-10
- Sapphira repeats her husband’s lie and faces the same consequence. Does this severe judgment seem fair to you? Why or why not?
- How do you reconcile this story with the idea of God’s love and grace? (Consider the context of the early Church and the need for purity.)
- How might this event have shaped the early Church’s understanding of sin and accountability?

Solemn Purging and Spiritual Purity

- Read aloud together Acts 5:11-13
- The text says, “great fear came upon the whole church” and that outsiders respected but didn’t dare join them. What does this tell us about the Church’s call to be distinct from the world?
- How does the Church balance being welcoming to sinners while maintaining a standard of repentance and holiness?

Sovereign Participation

- Read aloud together Acts 5:14
- Despite the fear and high standard, “multitudes” were added to the Church. What does this suggest about God’s work in building His Church?
- How can we trust God to grow His Church when we prioritize truth and repentance over simply attracting crowds?



Use the questions below to help extend the impact of the weekend message. They are not only useful in your LifeGroup, but try discussing with your family, friends, and co-workers for even greater understanding and spiritual growth.