

## **Lesson 12: Acts 5:1-11 Ananias and Sapphira**

Background: Peter with Ananias and Sapphira in a house

**Acts 5:1-2** What did Ananias lay at the apostles' feet? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Acts 5:3-4** Who did Ananias lie to about the money? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Acts 5:5-11** What happened to Ananias and his wife Sapphira? \_\_\_\_\_

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4 Prize dollars if an adult reads the Bible passage with the student and helps them fill out their Study Sheet.

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## **Acts 5:1-11 Question Answers**

**Acts 5:1-2** Ananias and his wife Sapphira had sold a piece of property for a certain amount of money. Because Ananias wanted everyone to think that he and his wife were big givers, he told the apostles that they were giving the church all of the money that they received from the sale of their property, when really they were only giving part of the money that they had received.

**Ananias laid part of the money he had received at the apostles' feet**, but lied, saying that he was giving all of it.

**Acts 5:3-4** Ananias thought he was just lying to the apostles and all the members of God's church family, but Peter said he was really lying to God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives in God's church family and helps us become more and more like Jesus, God the Son. In the previous passage, we learned that out of love for the church, Barnabas had sold his land, and had given the money to the church; so Ananias wanted people to think that he loved the church too by giving lots of money. He wanted people to think, 'wow, he sold his entire property, just to give all the money to the church, like Barnabas did, he must really love God.' God does not need our money, God wants us to give joyfully, because we love God and His church family. Ananias did not have to give anything, but because he loved what men thought of him more than what God thought, **he lied to God the Holy Spirit**, to make himself look good.

**Acts 5:5-11** When Peter asked Ananias if he had really given the church all of the money from the sale of his property, like he had said, Ananias could have admitted that he had lied and he would have been forgiven. But instead, he lied again, so God the Holy Spirit struck him dead and the young men of the church wrapped his body in a sheet and buried him outside. Similarly, when Sapphira, his wife, came into the house, Peter asked her if they had really given all of the money they had received for the property, but she lied too. So the Holy Spirit struck her dead as well. **Ananias and Sapphira were struck dead by God**, because God did not want the early church to pretend to love Him and His church when they were really pretending.

### ***Lesson 13: Acts 5:12-16 Many Signs and Wonders Done***

Background: Peter and the other ten apostles of Jesus in the streets of Jerusalem.

**Acts 5:12** Who did many signs and wonders among the people? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Acts 5:13-14** Who dared not join the apostles as they healed people in Jesus' name at the temple?

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**Acts 5:15-16** What did the people do when the apostles were walking by? \_\_\_\_\_

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4 Prize dollars if an adult reads the Bible passage with the student and helps them fill out their Study Sheet.

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## **Acts 5:12-16 Question Answers**

**Acts 5:12** The remaining eleven apostles of Jesus, led by the apostle Peter, were telling the people about Jesus and healing them with the power of Jesus, God the Son. These healings were a sign to prove that what they said about Jesus really came from God, and that Jesus really is God the Son. Again, they were meeting in Solomon's Portico, the biggest, grandest gate into the temple of God in Jerusalem, where earlier, Peter and John had told the lame beggar to get up and walk in the name of Jesus.

**Acts 5:13-14** The rest of the people who did not dare join the apostles, were probably other believers in Jesus who knew that Jesus' power was working visably through the apostles, but feared to be near the apostles after the death of Ananias and Sapphira, who were struck dead by God for lying about how much of their money they had given to the church. Nevertheless, the people of Jerusalem held the apostles of Jesus in high regard, and many more individuals became believers in Jesus everyday.

**Acts 5:15-16** Because the people knew that Jesus, God the Son, was working through His chosen apostles, whenever they were walking by, the people would lay their sick family members and friends out on the street so that the shadow of Peter might pass over them so that they would be healed. Peter's shadow was not what healed them though. Everyone who was healed at this time was healed by God choosing to make them well, so that they might come to trust and follow Jesus.

### ***Lesson 14: Acts 5:17-42 The Apostles Arrested and Freed***

Background: Peter and the other ten apostles of Jesus in the streets of Jerusalem, in prison, and then back on the streets.

**Acts 5:17-18** Why did the high priest and the Jewish council arrest the apostles? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Acts 5:19-26** What happened to the apostles in prison? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Acts 5:27-42** What did the high priest and the council say to the apostles? \_\_\_\_\_

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4 Prize dollars if an adult reads the Bible passage with the student and helps them fill out their Study Sheet.

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## **Acts 5:12-16 Question Answers**

**Acts 5:17-18** The apostles of Jesus were healing many people in the name of Jesus, and many people were coming to believe that Jesus really was God the Son, because He was still working through His chosen followers. Because of this, even though the high priest and the Jewish council had gotten Jesus arrested and killed by the Romans, more and more people in Jerusalem were becoming followers of Jesus everyday. **In order to stop Jesus' followers from teaching about Him,** the high priest and the high Jewish council tried to arrest the apostles.

**Acts 5:19-26** The night that the apostles were thrown into the public prison, **an angel from God came and opened the doors of the prison** and let the apostles out. The angel told them to go back to the temple of God again and to teach the people that Jesus is God the Son, the promised King sent from God the Father. The next day, when the high priest and the council called for the apostles to be brought from the prison to be questioned, they discovered that even though the doors were all locked and the guards were all still in place, the apostles were gone. That is when they were told that the apostles were back in the temple teaching people about Jesus.

**Acts 5:27-42** Because the high priest and the council did not want the apostles teaching people about Jesus or healing people in the name of Jesus, they sent their officers to bring them out of the temple to come before the council again. Once again, **the high priest and the council ordered the apostles to not teach the people about Jesus,** but again, they said that they must obey God and not men. This angered them, but then Gamaliel, a member of the Pharisees, pointed out that many people in the past had claimed to be sent from God and gathered lots of followers, but when they were killed, their followers scattered. Gamaliel said this to assure the high priest and the council that if Jesus was just a liar or a crazy person who thought he was God the Son, when He really was not, now that He was dead, His followers would soon stop believing in Him. On the other hand though, Gamaliel warned them that if Jesus really is who He said He is and God was with the apostles of Jesus, no one can stop God and they will be sorry if they try.