

R E A D: Acts 5:1-11

Main Idea: The church is young and while many good things are being done and said in God's name, Satan is also busy at work. Ananias and Sapphira lie to the apostles about the sale price for land they sold. Evidently, they wanted to look good, so they claimed they were giving ALL the proceeds of the land. Peter says they haven't lied to man but to God.

DISCUSS

Children: What does it mean to lie? Why should we not lie? If we ever do lie and not get caught, are we able to fool God?

Teen: What is more important appearance or truth? Can you lie and God not know? When you lie, who are you lying to? Who are you disobeying? Who are you hurting? Who is cheering?

Adult: When you do something for the Lord, do you want the recognition? Or do you want it done quietly and in secret? We can only presume that Ananias and Sapphira wanted others to view their act and to also recognize them for making the sacrifice for the church. How do you suppose they would have felt if they had lived, but their secret had come to light? Would they have felt guilt? Would they have had pride at being someone who gave so much? How do you suppose they would have felt if they lived, and the secret went undetected?

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MEMORIZE

Acts 4:12 (ESV)

"And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."





R E A D: Acts 5:12-16

Main Idea: This is an amazing time in the early church's history. God is performing signs and wonders by the hands of the apostles. What they had seen Jesus do, they are now doing. No doubt word is spreading quickly that although Jesus is no longer in the flesh, miracles of healing are continuing to occur.

DISCUSS

Children: The apostles of the early church experienced power like they had never known. The church was of one mind and one spirit and amazing things happened! More and more people came to know Jesus. The people were so amazed by what they saw.

Teen: What did seeing these signs and wonders do for the people? People saw God through these acts. How can we show others God today?

Adult: Put yourself in the shoes of these first century people. Medical practices were rudimentary at best and dangerous at times. Or you might just have to live with the illness or injury. If you or a loved one had a medical issue, would you have done all you could to get to the apostles? Once healed, would you have told everyone you knew? These signs did much for the spread of the Word and for the increasing numbers in the church.

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