



HOME GROUP STUDY

12th July 2026

Series: Signs of a growing church: SPIRITUAL INTEGRITY

Acts 4 v32 - c5v12

32 Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. 33 And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. 34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold 35 and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. 36 Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, 37 sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

5 But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, 2 and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land? 4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." 5 When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it. 6 The young men rose and wrapped him up and carried him out and buried him.

7 After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. 8 And Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you[a] sold the land for so much." And she said, "Yes, for so much." 9 But Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out." 10 Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. When the young men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband. 11 And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things. 12 Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles.

Ice-breaker: have you seen someone exposed as a liar in public life recently?

1.THE WORK OF GOD

1.1 He's the God of fellowship

32 Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common.

Q1: Is this type of fellowship attractive or disturbing?!

1.2 He's the God of power

33 And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

Q2: How difficult do you feel it is to share your testimony?

Q3: How can you be better at starting spiritual conversations?

1.3 He's the God of generosity

34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold **35** and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

36 Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, **37** sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Q4: This is a lovely act of generosity. Have you experienced generosity from anyone in life? If so, what was its spiritual impact?

2.THE WORK OF THE EVIL ONE

2.1 He's the great deceiver

- Ananias

(c5v1-2) But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, **2** and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet.

- Sapphira

(c5v7-8) After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. **8** And Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much." And she said, "Yes, for so much."

Q5: Was it such a big deal to keep some back?

2.2 He provokes God's judgement

- Ananias

(c5v3) But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?

- Sapphira

(c5v9) But Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord?

2.3 He brings death

- Ananias

(c5v4-6) While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God." **5** When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it. **6** The young men rose and wrapped him up and carried him out and buried him.

- Sapphira

(c5v9-10) But Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.” 10 Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. When the young men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.

Q6: Why does God act so decisively? What is at stake?

3. THE WORK OF GOD'S PEOPLE

3.1 To be in awe of God's presence

(v11) And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things.

Q7: When have you been in awe of God's presence?

3.2 To do his will

(v12) Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles.

Q8: How does being in awe of God help you do his will?

A PRAYER

Loving Lord thank you that you are at work today and you are the God of fellowship, the God of power, and of the God of generosity. Help me recognise the work of the evil one and that he is the great deceiver who provokes your judgement, brings death and he seeks to destroy the spiritual integrity of your people.

Thank you that you came to bring life and hope. Help me join the work you are doing in the midst your people, to be in awe of your presence and ready to do your will. Help me discover the joy of living a life of true spiritual integrity for the sake of your Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ and in the power of your life-giving Holy Spirit, Amen.