

Grow. Give. Go.

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

THE ONGOING WORK OF JESUS BY THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

The Book of Acts - Part 11

"THE PERIL OF PRETENDING"

"A Story of Duplicity, Deceit & Discipline in the Early Church"

(Acts 5:1-11)

INTRODUCTION:

- _____, _____ and _____ have been greater threats to the church and her mission than _____.

REVIEW THE CONTEXT FROM LAST SUNDAY: ACTS 4:32-37

1A. THE DESCRIPTION OF A HEALTHY CHURCH: (Acts 4:32-37)

"And the congregation of those who believed..."

- The Virtues that Shape and Sustain a Healthy Church:
 - Unity, Fidelity, and Generosity. (v. 32-35)
 - Barnabas – an illustration of godly sacrifice and generosity. (v. 36-37)

2A. THE DISRUPTION OF A HEALTHY CHURCH: (Acts 5:1-11)

"But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet."

- The Issue: They didn't _____ to give _____. But they _____ to give _____ while _____ to give _____.

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before men to be noticed by them; otherwise you have no reward with your Father who is in heaven"

—Matthew 6:1

1. The _____ of Hypocrisy: Putting on an _____. (v. 1a)
2. The _____ in Hypocrisy: Pursuing Man's _____. (v. 1b)
3. The _____ of Hypocrisy: You forfeit God's _____. (v. 1c)

1B. The Hypocrisy of Ananais & Sapphira _____ : (v. 1-2)

1C. _____ it was **Conceived**. (v. 4)

"Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart?"

2C. _____ it was **Conceived**. (v. 1-3, 8-9)

1D. ...with **Sapphira's** willing _____.

"... with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge,... (v. 1, 2)

"Then Peter said to her, 'Why is it that you have agreed together...' (v. 9)

2D. ...with **Satan's** willing _____.

"Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit..." (v. 3)

- **The Principle:** Satan can only _____ sinful behavior where he finds _____ in the _____.

2B. The Hypocrisy of Ananais & Sapphira _____ : (v. 3-10)

1C. **Peter's Specific** _____ helps us understand the _____ of Sin.

"...you have not lied to men but to God."

"...you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test?"

2C. **God's Swift** _____ helps us understand the _____ of Sin.

"And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last.... (v. 5)

"And immediately she fell at his feet and breathed her last...." (v. 10)

- The _____ matters!
- The _____ matters!

"Therefore, **laying aside falsehood**, SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR, for we are members of one another."

—Ephesians 4:25

- _____ destroys _____!

3B. The Hypocrisy of Ananais & Sapphira _____ : (v. 11)

"And great fear came over the whole church, and over all who heard of these things."

CONCLUSION: THE _____ OF A HEALTHY CHURCH: