

## **Bridge Church Home Groups Questions**

Series: Unstoppable Part 1 – A Study in Acts Message: The Heart of Thanksgiving Pastor Ryan Pedde

Read Acts 4:36-37 and Acts 5:1-11 then use the following questions to kick-start your discussion:

- 1. Our verses today take place during an extraordinary time in the history of the church. The Holy Spirit was poured out at Pentecost, the church has become a community of roughly 10,000 people in Jerusalem, miracles are happening each day, and the church is experiencing its first persecution. Extraordinary times call of extraordinary measures. One of these extraordinary measures was the radical generosity of the people.
  - a. What bubbles up in your heart when you read that Barnabas sold a field and donated the money to the church?
  - b. What are some of the greatest moments of generosity you have witnessed in your life?
  - c. How does the story of Barnabas challenge you?
- 2. The story of Ananias and Sapphira is right after Barnabas' story for a reason. It is a strong contrast.
  - a. What was the difference in the two stories?
  - b. What does it reveal about A&S' hearts?
- 3. While Barnabas gave humbly and honestly, A&S seem to want the appearance of sacrificial giving without the full sacrifice.
  - a. In what ways can Christians today struggle with wanting the glory of appearing spiritual, religious or pious?
  - b. Have you ever seen it in yourself?
- 4. Read these portions of Jesus' words in Matthew 6 verses 1-6 and verses 16-21.
  - a. What does a heart of thanksgiving look like according to these verses?
- 5. While the judgement in this story seems harsh to modern readers, the truth is that all sin eventually leads to death (Romans 6:23). Thankfully we can find forgiveness and cleansing through the Lord Jesus Christ (1 John 1:9).
  - a. Take some time as a group to ask for forgiveness for your sins, and thank Jesus for restoration and a new start available through Him.